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Hafa Adai!

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Govt paychecks released today

By JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Larson

Finance Secretary Larissa Larson issued a memorandum yesterday to advise government employees that payroll checks will be released today—a day earlier than the usual schedule.

The Finance chief stated in the memo that the "disruption of technology has had a significant impact on the processing of direct deposits to all our CNMI government employees."

"However, we have implemented contingency plans to ensure payroll for today is on time. As part of our contingency plans, we printed payroll checks

See GOVT on Page 4

IN CAR ACCIDENT NEAR EUCON

One victim airlifted to Beijing

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of two women who were mowed down by a taxicab in Gualo Rai on Thursday night was still in critical condition yesterday and was scheduled to be flown to Beijing, China, last night for an operation and further medical treatment, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

A staff at Eucon International University disclosed that Li Chen, 51, was still in the intensive care unit of the Commonwealth Health Center as of yesterday.

The staff, who asked not to be identified, said that Chen needs to be operated on in China as CHC has no orthopedic specialist.

The employee said Chen was not immediately airlifted to China because of her unstable condition and flight availability.

Chen sustained a laceration on the head, broken thigh bones on both legs, and had blood in her left lung.

The staff said the other victim, Zhang Hong Li, was expected to be

See VICTIM on Page 4

BSI gives sneak peek at training facility

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For over a month now, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. has been training their personnel for the upcoming opening of their live training casino at the ground floor of T Galleria.

No date has been definitely confirmed yet for the soft opening, but it seems that July 26 has been eyed upon.

Members of the media were invited to check out their training facility at the Bank of Guam building in Garapan yesterday.

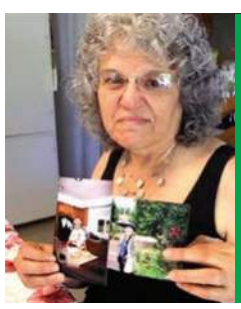
Of the 46 employees in training, about 29 are dealers.

According to pit manager Isha King, many came from the U.S. mainland's casino capitals such as Las Vegas and Atlantic City.

See BSI on Page 4

Best Sunshine International's dealers and other casino personnel are being trained for over a month now for the upcoming soft opening of their live training casino. Training manager Mike Shure briefs them at their facility in Garapan.
FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

INSIDE



BUSINESS
For many Americans over 65, the costs of long-term care are increasingly beyond reach.
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WORLD
The death toll in Yemen from the Shiite rebel shelling rises to nearly 100.
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LIFE & STYLE
Jon Stewart enters the home stretch of his 16 years on Comedy Central.
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Local

GTA says it's still interested to expand to the CNMI

BY JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Guam's incumbent telecom carrier, GTA, is still interested in investing and expanding in the Commonwealth, one of its executives said.

Dan Tydingco, executive vice president for external and legal affairs at GTA, said the company "always intended to expand here [in the CNMI]."

Tydingco said GTA wanted to set up shop in the CNMI two and a half years ago, "wanting to become a competing local exchange carrier."

He said, however, that GTA's application to enter the CNMI as a business competitor is still "in the courts."

"I don't want to comment with that case before the court with regards to the challenges that have been posed to us entering into the market," he said.

The case Tydingco was referring to is an ongoing legal tussle between GTA and IT&E.

Michael Norita Evangelista, legal counsel for GTA, declined to comment, saying only that the "case is still tied up in court."

JOEL D. PINAROC

Dan Tydingco, executive vice president for external and legal affairs at GTA, gives lawmakers on Capital Hill a presentation on GTA's range of services and latest projects.

The lawyer indicated that this is the only "hindrance" for GTA to come into the CNMI.

Tydingco met with lawmakers last week on Capital Hill to provide information on GTA's range of services and latest projects.

In a presentation, he said the Commonwealth has only one submarine cable system linking it to the outside world, unlike Guam which has several.

He described the CNMI's connection as "single-threaded."

On the possibility of the CNMI having another cable system, Tydingco said it is probably up to the lawmakers and the CNMI government to make the determination.

The GTA meeting was convened by Rep. Francis Taimanao (Ind-Saipan) in the aftermath of a massive communications breakdown more than a week ago that continues to affect Saipan.

On Monday, IT&E maintained that it has "no monopoly" in the CNMI.

James Oehlerking, chief executive officer of PTI, which is the parent company of IT&E, said that "anybody can come in here and compete." He added that investors eyeing the CNMI can come anytime.

He also pointed out that they are providing service to other telecoms in the CNMI such as iConnect and Docomo.

Asked if it's possible for the CNMI to have multiple fiber optic cable connections like Guam, Oehlerking said it's not easy.

"Guam is much more of a through-point in the middle of the Pacific so there are multiple cables that pass through Guam," Oehlerking said.

He added that Guam over the years has been set up as a through-point. "It's not easy to change routes or just say let's go through Saipan en route to say, Taiwan or China," the executive said.

After the CNMI-wide network outage more than a week ago, Internet capacity is still not at 100 percent as connections are relying on backup systems.

Oehlerking said they will take another look into their entire system once the repairs are done. A repair vessel coming from Taiwan is on its way to the CNMI and is expected to arrive Thursday.

CUC, CHCC get started on payment negotiations

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. met for a "productive" meeting with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. executives on a payment plan that's agreeable to both parties, acting CUC executive director John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"We were able to express concerns on both sides," Riegel said. "We know the direction the hospital wants to go. We expressed our concerns about continuing to get payments for the bills that they have accrued. We are going to hammer out details of the agreement and hopefully have something to present to the board at the next meeting [in] August."

When asked, Riegel said they have not settled on a monthly payment. He also said he could not comment on what the details were going to be.

CHCC owes around $560,000 in bills plus penalties per month, and owe around $16 million in unpaid bills to CUC. In June, the hospital proposed a monthly minimum payment of $150,000. Later that month, the CUC board discussed a draft contract based on this figure, but board director David Sablan Jr. said then that this $150,000 would amount to a "subsidy" of the local hospital.

Riegel said yesterday there were some concerns about this $150,000, but this would be addressed.

"We need to make sure that shortfall is not overlooked because that debt has to be paid. Our goal is to come to an agreement between CUC management and CHC management on the terms...," he said.

"They presented us with their draft of the [payment] agreement and we need to review it and make comments on it," he added.

He said they would need to be more specific on the responsibilities of each party, like who would be responsible for what in terms of the solar energy project the hospital is doing.

Bayani Association donates ceiling fans to man'amkó

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Bayani Association donated four ceiling fans yesterday to the *man'amkó* at the senior center of the Office on Aging in Chinatown.

According to Bayani president Mario Mayuga, the fans were what the clients at the center said they needed.

"When we came here, we saw the ceiling fans that were broken and not working. At that time, we promised to replace those fans and this afternoon we're fulfilling our promise. It's nice to be of service to all of you," Mayuga said.

The donation was part of the proceeds the Filipino association made from their 14th anniversary fundraiser, the Queen of the World gay beauty pageant, held last Saturday.

Aside from Bayani members, fourth runner up Babes Asinero and 2015 Queen Cris Manuel were also there to facilitate the donation.

The organization will also be responsible for the installation of the fans.

Office on Aging director Walter Manglona said he is thankful for the donation.

"We are planning to do some renovations around here and one of the things that's on our list is the ceiling fans but we're truly blessed to have the kind generosity of this group to show up and make these donation to our senior citizens," Manglona said.

"With these ceiling fans in place, it'll make the patio a lot cooler and it's going to be a lot more breezy for our citizens to be out there when they play their daily games," he added.

The Saipan Seniors Advisory Council also thanked the Bayani Association for their support.

"Thank you very much for being very generous. I wish you more success in the future," SSAC president Maria Salinas said.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

The Bayani Association donates ceiling fans to the senior center at the Office on Aging yesterday. The donation was part of the proceeds made from the organization's fundraising efforts.

NMHC eyes fire station, sports and park facility repairs

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. aims to offer to repair or rehabilitate public facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota using their federal program funding for fiscal year 2015.

Funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

According to their Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan made public last month, the housing corporation scored five community projects in order of priority.

The projects, in order of priority, are: Kagman Community Park, renovation of fire stations on Saipan, purchase of a "wildland" truck for the Tinian fire station, rehabilitation of the Sinapalo baseball field, and resurfacing and upgrading of the oval track at the Susupe Sports Complex on Saipan.

NMHC said a seven-member committee made up of staff and board members scored the projects in April.

NMHC says the renovation of the fire station on Saipan and Rota will be addressed through Community Development Block program funds. These fire stations have been deteriorating due to environmental factors and aging. For this project, NMHC sets a target date of August 2016, with funding of $200,000.

NMHC says the purchase of a wildland fire truck for Tinian will benefit the entire island. The island's fire station does not currently have a wildland truck to maximize their firefighting capabilities during the dry season, NMHC said. Funds for this project amount to $144,400 and a target date is set for September 2016.

On the Kagman Community Park, NMHC said recreational facilities will benefit most people, especially the youth and children of the community. The park, a proposal for which was submitted by the Rotary Club of Saipan, will provide residents of Kagman a safe facility where they can congregate and play sports. This will deter youth crimes, NMHC said.

Funding for the park project is listed at $150,000 and a target date is set for July 2016.

On the rehabilitation of the Sinapalo baseball field on Rota, NMHC said the project would benefit the entire population of Rota where 84.9 percent are in the low- to moderate-income range. Rota's population is 2,444, according to NMHC.

The rehabilitation project will enhance the island's current and only baseball field into a multi-façade baseball facility, NMHC says. The infrastructure will offer residents the ability to enjoy team-sporting events for day and night, regulation baseball, softball, and Little League games.

NMHC set a target date of July 2016 for this project, with $150,000 in funding. The Office of the Mayor of Rota submitted the project proposal.

On the resurfacing of the Susupe Sports Complex track facility, NMHC aims to complete a scope of work left short after funding limitations precluded project completion.

NMHC says funding for the project was approved in the 2014 Annual Action Plan.

Using the residual balance of $132,744, the NMHC evaluation committee has allocated the program year 2015's balance to complete this project.

The Susupe Sports Complex is the only major sports complex with a baseball field, softball field, and track and field, soccer field, and gymnasium in the Commonwealth.

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	Saipan	Winners Name	Phone Number
$100 DRAW			
1	$100	Jenny Santos	785-9059
2	$100	Lea Masga	484-5899
3	$100	Elilai Pia'lig	783-0406
	Tinian		
4	$100	Dannica	433-1000
	Saipan		
5	$100	Alma Villagomez	789-6509
6	$100	Thomasa Stole	484-4710
	Rota		
7	$100	Jen Abdar	532-2662
	Saipan		
8	$100	Steve Mog	785-9056
9	$100	Mama Lyn	483-9302
$50 DRAW			
	Saipan	**Winners Name**	**Phone Number**
10	$50	James T	989-9914
11	$50	Janet Borja	288-2297
	Rota		
12	$50	Valerie A	532-3739
	Saipan		
13	$50	Tita	989-9081
14	$50	A. Taitano	483-6382
	Tinian		
15	$50	Melisa Lieto	297-0411
$20 DRAW			
	Saipan	**Winners Name**	**Phone Number**
16	$20	Wanda	483-9267
17	$20	Tanya Saures	285-7487
	Tinian		
18	$20	Elizabeth Cruz	433-1163
	Saipan		
19	$20	Alex	483-1443
20	$20	Patrick Camacho	285-9214
21	$20	Beck Cruz	256-1156
	Rota		
22	$20	Roman Manglona	532-8274
	Tinian		
23	$20	Lilian Cepeda	433-5864
	Saipan		
24	$20	Apiner Seman	789-8606
25	$20	K Lizama	989-1673
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	Rota		
27	$20	Valerie A	532-3739
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28	$20	Jane Cabrera	256-1513
29	$20	Tayo	888-4178
30	$20	Kat Agoun	989-2802

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please call **783-4888** and ask for **Doris**
Thank You & Goodluck!

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Friday, July 24, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's Office (Conference Room) at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: June 4, 2015

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Executive Director

III. OLD BUSINESS:
A. Casino Employee Licensing Matters
B. GLI Pre-opening Audit of Casino Gaming Equipment
C. Casino Gaming Equipment and Tables Licensing Matters

IV. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Adoption of Emergency Casino Regulations
B. Adoption of Casino Regulations for Public Comments
C. Adoption of Minimum Internal Control Standards ("MICS")
D. Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC. - Temporary Live Training

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS
VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commissioner may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day if necessary.

/s/ JUAN M. SABLAN
Chairman

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SHEFA board seeks more operational budget

The board of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance will seek the assistance of Saipan lawmakers on the possibility of raising the board's operational budget.

The board's operational remains unchanged through the years, according to Oscar Babauta, chairman of the SHEFA board.

Babauta said the board plans to "seek an audience" with members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation to request an amendment to an existing law on the SHEFA board's operational budget.

"The operational budget is about $100,000, which has stayed the same through the years. We have to consider the growth of the island, the need for SHEFA to have its own legal counsel, and other concerns," Babauta said.

He said the board would not "ask for huge funds" but enough to address its budgetary "constraints."

Babauta said the board plans to make the request after it meets at the end of this month.

He said the SHEFA board will also work on a report on the status of recipients of grants.

"We are working on coming with historical data. Part of the plan is to constantly communicate with recipients," he said, adding that there are difficulties, particularly for students who sometimes move from state to state or even from country to country.

In May, House floor leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) and other SNILD lawmakers asked SHEFA to provide data on how many of its beneficiaries have actually reported back to the CNMI after receiving financial assistance.

According to Camacho, the SHEFA has an earmarked budget of "$3.1 million to $3.2 million."

It was brought up that most of the appropriations should go to awards, rather than the operations of the SHEFA, Camacho said.

"It is hard to check. When you're done with school, then you look for work. But they [beneficiaries] still need to report and say that they are back and are paying taxes now," Camacho said.

Beneficiaries of SHEFA are mandated to report on their status. Should the beneficiary decide to work and stay in the United States, they should pay the money back to the SHEFA, Camacho said.

"That is the concern, tracking the students. Either they quit or started work somewhere," Camacho said, adding that when SHEFA sends out letters, most often the letters are ignored. ***(Joel Pinaroc)***

JOEL D. PINAROC

Oscar Babauta, chairman of the SHEFA board, says the board will seek a larger funding for SHEFA's operational needs.

CPA to upgrade Tinian airport sewer line

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority will improve the sewer system for the Tinian airport to go with ongoing terminal improvements.

The CPA board voted to award the construction management services for the Tinian airport sewer line and sewer system to the company, GHD, last week.

The project is funded separately from the Office of Insular Affairs-backed Tinian terminal improvements that broke ground last Friday, but will go together to open a terminal for direct flights.

During a CPA board meeting last week, CPA executive assistant Wendi Prater told board members that the board in September approved using settlement funds from a previous case for the sewer line projects.

CPA negotiated with the highest ranked consultant and was waiting to award the contract to the consultant before putting to bid the sewer project.

Prater said the sewer project was originally part of the terminal improvement project. "But the departure terminal will not have a septic system unless we do this project. So in order to open the terminal we have to do the sewer line," she told board members.

Last Friday, CPA and stakeholders broke ground on the Tinian terminal repairs with the aim to have direct flights to the island of Tinian.

CPA, through contractors ASC Corp., has set a completion time of 270 days. SSFM CNMI, LLC is the construction manager. A completion date is eyed for March 18, 2016.

Quitugua waiting for PSS comments on teachers' bill

Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) is awaiting comments from the Public School System that he would integrate in a bill that proposes to allow PSS to hire non-U.S. citizens as teachers.

Quitugua, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth Affairs, said he has already introduced Senate Bill 19-55, which seeks to help PSS address its shortage of teachers for certain courses or subjects including mathematics, science, engineering, and special education.

Currently, CNMI laws do not allow PSS to hire non-U.S. residents.

Quitugua explained that there was a statute way back banning the hiring of non-U.S. residents for government agencies, but due to a massive manpower shortage, particularly for PSS and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., he reintroduced a bill allowing the agencies to hire from outside.

"The bill had a sunset provision [of five years] to allow the agencies to train locals, but this provision also expired," he said.

He said PSS is "having a hard time hiring for math, science, and special education teachers."

Quitugua said the bill would allow CW workers or "anyone who has the qualifications" for these courses.

The lawmaker said S.B. 19-55 will be part of the agenda for tomorrow's Senate session on Rota.

PSS supports the proposed legislation, with Education Commissioner Rita Sablan herself expressing support for the bill.

"PSS is always looking for highly qualified personnel. So when there's a shortfall, we have to go beyond our parameters, and it seems that in the CNMI, we do not have the pool that we need," Sablan said.

She added that the PSS "would like to have the ability to recruit from outside the U.S. territory or the U.S. mainland for that matter."

"If there are qualified [teachers], we would like to invite them to work with PSS," Sablan said. ***(Joel Pinaroc)***

BSI

From Page 1

Training manager Mike Shure, who has been in the casino business for 20 years, said the dealers-in-training are "good."

"They're just naturals," Shure said. "They really want to be dealers."

So far, Shure said, he has lost only three students.

King, who worked for Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino for 13 years, said that one of the challenges for her was to teach the dealers Baccarat with a 5-percent commission.

"It's not easy for new dealers to do 5 percent," she said.

She started training with the dealers just last week.

King said that math skills, attitude, and personality are some of the criteria needed to be successful dealers.

Casino supervisors and managers as well as surveillance personnel are also being trained.

"They need to know the game too," King said.

Right now, Shure said they are focusing on training U.S. citizens and green card holders, especially those who live on island.

"My requirements for me to train you [is you] need to be an islander. I like to train people who live here," Shure said.

"Right now that's my directive. More islanders should get involved," he added.

King echoed the same.

"For now we don't have CW-1s," she said, adding that CWs are "not approved yet." CW1 employees are foreign workers that are petitioned to work in the Commonwealth.

The training facility started last June 15 and the number of trainees continue to increase, according to Shure.

He said that they will be training another batch of dealers soon after the first group begins working at the live training casino.

Asked if the dealers are ready for the soft opening, Shure said "You're never ready as you want to be. But I think they are ready."

He said they will be operating for 12 hours for the first week or so but by August they are looking at staying open for 24 hours.

Last week, Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said that BSI is looking to open the casino "this month."

The commission is set to have a meeting this Friday but it is not clear if BSI's opening is on the agenda.

BSI earlier said that the opening date for the casino is a "moving target."

VICTIM

From Page 1

released from CHC yesterday. Li sustained a laceration on the head and bruises on her left leg, police said.

The Eucon staff said Chen and Li were actually standing near the school's gate when the taxicab hit them.

The staff said Chen and Li were training to become educators at Eucon. Chen just arrived on Saipan three weeks ago, according to the employee. There was no immediate information as to when Li arrived on the island.

The staff said the speeding taxicab had swerved to avoid hitting other educators/trainees who were crossing the crosswalk, resulting in the car speeding straight toward Chen and Li who were standing near the school's gate.

The staff said the educators/trainees, including the two victims, were at that time heading to the school's dormitory, which is located across Chalan Pale Arnold (Middle Road).

The staff said the taxicab's company is not coordinating with the school, but the insurance company has been helping them.

He said their "brothers and sisters" in school have also been helping the victims.

Taxi driver Amrita Lal Sarker, 40, was allegedly speeding and driving recklessly when he hit and seriously injured Chen and Li. His four passengers were also hurt.

Sarker is still in jail after failing to post a $10,000 bail on charges of reckless driving, violating pedestrians' right of way at crosswalks, failing to exercise due care, failing to drive on the right side of the highway, and violating the speed limit.

Sarker's four tourist passengers suffered minor injuries.

One of the passengers told police that Sarker was driving fast and did not use his brakes as they approached the crosswalk and just swerved to avoid hitting the crossing pedestrians.

The silver 2008 Toyota Camry, with license plate TAXI-1832, had extensive damage on the front section after hitting a concrete gatepost near the main entrance of the Eucon International University.

Police and medics responded to the scene at 9:20pm.

GOVT

From Page 1

last Friday and printed supplemental checks on Monday," Larson, in the memo, said.

She also expressed appreciation to the Bank of Guam and other partner banks for their assistance during the past few days.

"I expect normal operations for direct deposits by next payday," she said.

On July 14, Larson suspended direct deposits of payroll checks as a communications outage continues to affect the Commonwealth.

"Until the technology issues are resolved by IT&E, all direct deposits of payroll checks will be suspended. The Department of Finance will be issuing paper checks to all CNMI government employees until further notice," she earlier wrote.

The Finance chief also urged the early submission of payroll documents.

She earlier described the impact of the outage to her department as "very significant," adding that the outage caused delays in drawdowns of federal funds and also severely affected the department's reporting activities, among other things.

She said the outage compelled the department to manually process some 1,500 checks for government employees who then had to rush to the bank to cash the checks.

Government employees normally get their salaries and wages via direct deposit into their bank accounts.

Man sues USCIS, officials over denial of CW-1 petition

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Bangladeshi national who obtained an umbrella permit in 2009 and a private company are suing the U.S. government and other officials in federal court for denying the company's petition for CW-1 permit for him on the grounds that the employer had not established that he was lawfully present in the CNMI at the time the petition was filed.

Angando Inc. and Moniruzzaman Masud are suing the U.S. government, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Leon Rodriguez, and USCIS California Service Center Director Rosemary Langley Melville.

Angando and Masud, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to declare that Masud was lawfully present in the CNMI at the time of Angando's petition, and is eligible for CW-1 classification.

Horey wants the court to compel the defendants to classify Masud as an alien eligible for CW-1 classification, and to approve Angando's petition to employ him.

Horey asked the court to prohibit the defendants from finding that Masud was unlawfully present at any time from Nov. 28, 2009, to the present, and from taking any adverse immigration actions against him as a consequence of such a finding.

The plaintiffs also demanded payment for court costs and attorney's fees.

Horey stated in the complaint that on April 30, 2007, Masud, who at the time held a CNMI 706D immediate relative entry permit based on his marriage, made a timely application to the CNMI Immigration Director for the renewal of his permit.

His renewal application was denied on July 18, 2007. He appealed the denial to the CNMI Attorney General.

The appeal was set for hearing on several occasions in 2009, but one each occasion the hearing was continued, and the appeal was never decided.

» Bangladeshi national cites umbrella permit to prove he was lawfully present in the CNMI

The appeal remained pending and unresolved as of Nov. 27, 2011.

Horey said that, on Nov. 27, 2009, the CNMI Department of Labor issued an umbrella permit to Masud.

Horey said the umbrella permit was a two-year permit issued prior to Nov. 28, 2009, by CNMI Labor, Department of Commerce, or Attorney General.

He said the umbrella permit, which expired on Nov. 27, 2011, protected the status of the holder to remain in the CNMI until revoked or expired.

The umbrella permit remained valid through Nov. 27, 2011, according to the lawyer.

Horey said that, on Nov. 27, 2011, and no later than Nov. 28, 2011 (a date deemed by USCIS to be equivalent to Nov. 27, 2011), Angando Inc. mailed to USCIS a petition (Form I-129CW) for CW-1 worker classification for Masud.

Horey said that, on Aug. 15, 2012, USCIS California Service Center Director Melville denied the petition on the basis that Angando Inc. had not presented evidence that Masud was lawfully present in the CNMI at the time the application was filed.

Angando Inc. appealed the denial to the administrative appeals office of the Department of Homeland Security.

On Feb. 20, 2015, the administrative appeals office upheld the denial, agreeing with Director Melville that Angando Inc. had not established that Masud was lawfully present in the CNMI at the time the petition was filed.

Under the immigration laws of the CNMI, Horey asserted, the denial of an entry permit renewal application by the Immigration Director was subject to an administrative appeal to the AG.

The AG, Horey pointed out, was authorized to conduct a hearing on the appeal, and, in the case of a denial based upon failure to meet the requirements of a marriage-based permit, was required to do so.

He said the denial, if timely appealed, was not final until affirmed by the AG, and the alien applicant remained lawfully in the CNMI until the disposition of the appeal.

Horey said at the time the application was submitted, Masud was lawfully present in the CNMI by virtue of the appeal and by virtue of the umbrella permit.

"The denial of CW-1 classification to Masud based on lack of evidence establishing that he was lawfully present in the CNMI at the time of the application was arbitrary, an abuse of discretion, and not in accordance with law," Horey said.

The lawyer said Masud was deprived of his lawful CNMI status without the due process required by CNMI law for the deprivation of such status.

IT&E: Prepaid fully operational; normal charges begin Thursday

IT&E said yesterday that both its GSM and CDMA prepaid networks are now fully operational.

Since the current network communications crisis began, IT&E has provided prepaid users with free local calls and SMS on the GSM and CDMA networks.

With the return of these networks, IT&E said that normal charges for prepaid usage would resume as of 8am Thursday, July 23.

IT&E prepaid subscribers that had prior load on their account when the network outage occurred will still have that load now that the networks are operational.

IT&E on Monday said the ship set to fix its damaged undersea fiber optic cable between Tinian and Saipan would arrive on Thursday, July 23, instead of today, due to high seas and storm in the northwest of the CNMI.

Depending on the initial investigation, identifying the "break" location, and the type of break, IT&E expects a potential 48-hour repair timeline.

Last Friday, IT&E restored the CNMI's 4G network under limited capacity. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Pacifica Insurance offers 10K as TOC hole-in-one prize

Add $10,000 more to the already impressive list of prizes that may be won at next week's Tournament of Champions. Pacific Insurance Underwriters announced yesterday that it is participating in the golf tournament by sponsoring the large cash award as a hole-in-one prize as part of TOC's 20th anniversary event.

"TOC has been instrumental in various beautification projects throughout the island. They have been strong partners in our community. We are extremely honored in our partnership," said Shirley Sablan, executive vice president and general manager of Pacifica Insurance. "We wish all the participants of the TOC golf tournament much success!"

"The Tournament of Champions has been a great success for the past 20 years, thanks to the generosity of companies like Pacifica Insurance," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "We definitely 'rest assured' knowing that companies like Pacifica are committed to helping the community."

The 20th Annual Tournament of Champions will be played at the LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses on Aug. 1 and 2. The two-day event is bigger and better than ever with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is $200.

First place winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior Flights will each receive $500 cash, $400 for second, $300 for third, a digital camera to fourth, and $100 DFS gift certificate for fifth place. The Ladies Low Gross champion will receive $500, $400 for second, and $300 for third place. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will receive a trophy.

There will be hundreds of thousands worth of prizes that will be at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes that include brand new vehicles donated by Joeten Motors, Atkins Kroll Toyota, Triple J Motors, and Club C. Pacifica Insurance and Club C are also sponsoring cash prizes as hole-in-one prizes, while Saipan Laolao Golf & Resort is also offering one year of free golf as another hole-in-one prize. Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines are also offering airline tickets as hole-in-one prizes.

The tournament will also be featuring $1,000 cash prize for closest to pin competition with a 25-year-old bottle of Chivas Regal.

Since its inception, TOC has given over $700,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to improvements like the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the former Palm Resort Saipan, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, and most recently the beautification of the Port to Park pathway.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2015 TOC, contact Babauta at 483-2563 or Hillary Agulto at 236-2571. For player information and to download the registration form, visit www.tocSaipan.com. ***(TOC)***

Members of the planning committee for the 2015 Tournament of Champions pose with the Pacifica Insurance representatives with the $10,000 check. The Tournament of Champions will be held on Aug. 1 and 2 at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CAMPUS BRIEFS

San Antonio Middle School notice

San Antonio Middle School is accepting registrations for school year 2015-2016. The following documents are needed upon registration for all students: updated health records (renewed annually), health insurance or Medicaid, and map of residence. For new students, the birth certificate and previous school records must also be submitted upon registration. Registration is not final until all documents are submitted to the office. For more information call 237-3582. Registrations are accepted from 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. ***(PR)***

MHS registration information

Report cards for Marianas High School students are available. Call 237-3205 for more information.

Registration for new incoming students for Marianas High School ends on Aug. 5, 2015. Please call 237-3206 for more information.

Documents required: official transcript/diploma/certification of completion; birth certificate; original updated school entrance health certificate; legal guardianship from the court with seal (if applicable); medical insurance or Medicaid. Copies of all required documents must be attached before your child can be registered. ***(PR)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. LAURION C. PANGELINAN and VERA T. PANGELINAN Defendants.	Civil Action No. 14-0149 NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 14th day of November, 2014, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **29th day of July, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 002 G 61, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 03, the original of which was recorded 14 MAY 90 as Document No. 90-1900 at Commonwealth Recorder's Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 27th day of May, 2015.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB15-DPS-107
OPENING DATE: JULY 31, 2015 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF VMware Vsphere WITH OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT ENTERPRISE ACCELERATION KIT VERSION 6 FOR THE CNMI DPS BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE, SAIPAN"

Copies of the Specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Submission of bid via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com is hereby authorized on this ITB.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO
Commissioner, DPS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE
of the
DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS MEETING

Pursuant to Public law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials Meeting will be held on ***Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at 10:30AM*** at the BECQ 2rd floor conference room, Suite 205.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
   a) Call to Order
   b) Roll Call
II. PERMIT APPLICATION
   1. PLUMERIA RESORT
   (CRM Permit Application No. TMS-2015-X-028)
      a. Discussion by DCRM Agenda Officials and Director
      b. Coastal Permit Application Determination
III. OTHER MATTERS
IV. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ Fran A. Castro
DCRM Director

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6822/23/24 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu • Website: www.nmcnet.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 15-004
ROOF REPLACEMENT, BUILDING J, NMC AS TERLAJE, SAIPAN CAMPUS

Northern Marianas College is soliciting sealed bid for the Roof Replacement of Building J at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje, Saipan Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan, commencing Tuesday, June 30, 2015 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting and site inspection for interested person, firms and corporation will be held on July 14, 2015 at 10:00am, NMC Procurement Management Office, Bldg. L, 2nd floor, conference room.

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., July 31, 2015, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This procurement is 100% Federally Funded by the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:

/s/Anita Camacho	/s/ David J. Attao
NMC Procurement Manager	Dean of Administration Resource Development

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Judge sets trial date in CUC's lawsuit vs PSS

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday set a bench trial for Jan. 4, 2016, in the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s lawsuit against the Public School System over unpaid utility bills.

At a status conference, Camacho also set an Oct. 20, 2015, hearing for the parties' motions.

CUC appeared through its counsel, Michael White. PSS counsel Tiberius Mocanu did not show up.

In separate lawsuits filed in December 2013, CUC sued PSS and the CNMI government to collect on owed utility bills.

White said PSS and the CNMI government are indebted to CUC for utility services in the principal sum of $5.94 million and $1.24 million respectively, together with prejudgment interest.

The CNMI government, through assistant attorney general David Lochabay, moved to dismiss the lawsuit. He argued that CUC, as a governmental entity, lacks capacity to sue the CNMI government, CUC's creator.

CUC counsel White argued that the Legislature designed CUC to be a separate, autonomous entity, with the power to recover the expenses of utility production from utility consumers, including the government.

In his ruling in September 2014, Camacho ruled that CUC can sue the CNMI government for unpaid utility bills. The CNMI Legislature explicitly granted CUC the power to bring lawsuits, and specifically mandated that CUC bill government consumers for utility services, said Camacho in denying the government's motion to dismiss the case. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

LIBERATION CANOPIES FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Canopies offer a new look at the Liberation Day carnival grounds at Garapan Fishing Base. Many people have been visiting the carnival grounds since the re-opening of the Liberation festivities' venue last Tuesday.

Probable cause is found to charge man who beat up drinking partner

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday found probable cause to charge Donny Swei with two offenses for allegedly beating up another man with a baton during a drinking session.

During the preliminary hearing, Camacho determined that there was probable cause to charge Swei, an ex-convict, with assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace.

Camacho directed the 42-year-old Swei to respond to the charges.

The judge, however, found no probable cause to charge Swei with aggravated assault and battery. He dismissed the charge without prejudice, which means the government can re-file the charge in the future.

At the hearing, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds called to the witness stand police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan, who basically narrated to the court the circumstances of the fight and their investigation that led to the arrest of Swei.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as counsel for Swei.

Police arrested Swei on July 15 after he was identified in a surveillance camera's footage that caught the attack at an apartment in Afetnas last July 8.

The victim, Scott Patrick Owen, suffered lacerations on the head and face and had to be brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for stitches, police said.

Police detective Pangelinan stated in her report that two police officers responded on July 8 at 7:52pm to a report of an injured person at Owen's apartment along Afetnas Road.

Owen told the officers that he had been drinking vodka with the Palauan man and that the suspect attacked him after he told Swei several times to leave because he needed to rest.

Owen added that he doesn't know the suspect's name.

Pangelinan said Owen called her the following day and gave her a flash drive containing the footage of the attack. She reviewed the footage, which was taken from the Advantage Store and faces the patio of Owen's house.

Pangelinan said the footage showed Swei throwing Owen to the floor, repeatedly punching him, and then hitting him several times with an extendable baton.

Pangelinan said Swei was taken to the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation for an interview, during which Owen identified him as his attacker.

The detective said Swei admitted to slapping and punching Owen in the face. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE GUAM AND COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MILITARY RELOCATION (2012 ROADMAP ADJUSTMENTS)

On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of the Navy (DON), in cooperation with the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9, U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of the Air Force, has prepared the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Military Relocation (CNMI) (2012 Roadmap Adjustments). The Final SEIS evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed action of constructing and operating a cantonment area, a family housing area, a live-fire training range complex (LFTRC), and associated infrastructure on Guam to support the relocation of a substantially reduced number of Marines and dependents than was previously analyzed in the 2010 Final EIS for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation; Relocating Marines from Okinawa, Visiting Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army and Missile Defense Task Force.

The Notice of Availability of the Final SEIS was published in the Federal Register on July 17, 2015 EDT/July 18 ChST. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations, and Environment) will announce the availability of its Record of Decision with respect to the proposed Marine Corps relocation in the Federal Register.

The Final SEIS has been distributed to various federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, and other interested individuals and organizations. The Final SEIS is publically available at http://guambuildupeis.us/ and at the following libraries:

- University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Government Documents, Tan Siu Lin Building, UOG Station, 303 University Drive, Mangilao, GU 96923
- Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, 254 Martyr Street, Hagatña, GU 96910.

The public may request copies of the Final SEIS Executive Summary by mail from the Joint Guam Program Office Forward, P.O. 153246, Santa Rita, Guam 96915.
For more information, please contact CAPT Joseph Campbell, Joint Guam Program Office at (703) 602-3924. On Guam, contact CDR Daniel Schaan, Joint Guam Program Office Forward, at (671) 339-6156.

Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Board of Directors
Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) wishes to announce a vacancy on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities and to actively participate in fundraising activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Raising funds for Council programs;
- Recruiting community partners;
- Promoting awareness about the Council's mission and its programs in the community;
- Attending Council programs and activities;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Providing input about the humanities from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the Council.

Applicants are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Robert H. Hunter, Chair, Northern Marianas Humanities Council at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or delivered to the Council's office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, **August 14, 2015**. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Red Cross donates to Northern Islands residents

The Northern Islands Mayor's Office expresses sincere appreciation to the American Red Cross CNMI Chapter for its generous donation to the residents of the Northern Islands.

On July 17, 2015, Red Cross emergency services director Paul Camacho and Joe Jetnil of the American Red Cross CNMI Chapter donated materials for the residents of the Northern Islands who were affected by Typhoon Nangka on July 9, 2015.

According to Northern Islands Mayor Jerome K. Aldan, the American Red Cross was the first responding agency to extend its support to the residents of Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrigan who were impacted by the recent storm.

Donations included ice chests, blankets, comfort kits, shovels, butane stoves and rakes.

Aldan is scheduled to sail to the Northern Islands soon to personally deliver the donations to the residents.

Aldan commends Camacho and Jetnil for their unusually swift response in coming to the rescue of Northern Islands residents. Aldan wanted to especially recognize the two for their sensitivity and sense of community in setting the Red Cross' footprints in the Northern Islands and its residents, for the help comes a long way in making a difference in the lives of the residents, "who are oftentimes are neglected by its own government when it comes to their needs."

Aldan said the donation would greatly support the victims of Typhoon Nangka in the Northern Islands.

"The Red Cross should serve as an example to most of the first responders when it comes to helping people and communities," he said. "Again, thank you, Mr. Paul Camacho, Mr. Joe Jetnil, and Red Cross for helping us and being there for us when it matters most." ***(Northern Islands Mayor's Office)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Notice to WIC participants

This is to advise all WIC participants who were scheduled for an appointment on July 9, 10, 11, and 13, 2015, for a mid-certification and/or nutrition discussion that they can contact the WIC office at 664-4084 regarding their food benefits. For those that were scheduled for a certification appointment, you can come in on Tuesdays or Wednesday, as they are our walk-in days. As we are still unable to access our system, we continue to provide services but we are unable to print food benefits. ***(WIC)***

Marriage Encounter to host Talaricos' visit

CNMI Marriage Encounter is hosting Section 12 Ecclesial Couple Joe and Sue Talarico's visit to Saipan on July 21-24, 2015. We are inviting all Encountered couples, priests, and religious to join our two evening events:

■ M.E. Community Mass on Wednesday, July 22, 6pm at Santa Soledad Parish and CNMI Area Leadership Selection Process right after Mass.

■ Section 12 Community Enrichment on Thursday, July 23, 6:30pm at Joeten DaiDai Social Hall. Joe and Sue Talarico will be facilitating this enrichment.

Please bring a dish to share for each event. Call CNMI Ecclesial Team Cathy Cepeda at 483-7000 or Pali Ike Ayuyu at 483-4543 if you have any questions. ***(PR)***

Statewide Independent Living Council meeting rescheduled

The Statewide Independent Living Council's Third General Membership Meeting scheduled for July 9, from 1pm to 3pm, at the Rota Bay View Hotel has been rescheduled for July 23, 2015, same time and place. Agenda remains unchanged. For more information, contact the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950; Navy Hill, Buildings N2 & N4; voice: 322-6537/8; TTY: 322-6449; fax: 322-6536; email: nmidir@ovr-gov.net; website: www.ovrgov.net. ***(SILC)***

Agricultural emergency loans now available

Commercial agricultural producers in Guam who were negatively impacted by Typhoon Dolphin may be eligible for Emergency Loans through the United State Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency. Eligible producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production or physical losses to a maximum amount of $500,000 at a low interest rate. Farm Service Agency will consider each loan application on its own merits. Deadline to apply is Feb. 5, 2016. For more information about Emergency Loans, contact the FSA Guam County Office at 472-7568 for an appointment or visit the FSA's website at www.fsa.usda.gov/hi. ***(USDA)***

Witnesses' convention series to show resources designed to assist families

Jehovah's Witnesses will discuss the keys to family happiness during their 2015 "Imitate Jesus!" Convention to be held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The Witnesses' three-day convention series will demonstrate how Jesus' example can give parents and children the tools to build stronger and more united families. The program will also include a stimulating examination of Jesus' famed Sermon on the Mount.

Mark L. Hollingshead, a spokesman for the convention program, said: "Jesus' Sermon on the Mount offers timeless advice that can help parents to better use their time and resources to build a more secure and loving family environment."

Jehovah's Witnesses invite people of all ages to attend. The first day of the convention will be this Friday. Sessions begin at 9:20am on all three days of the convention. Admission is free. Conventions of Jehovah's Witnesses are supported entirely by voluntary donations. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. **15-039**

Opening Date: **July 21, 2015**
Closing Date: **August 3, 2015**

Human Resource Manager

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director or his/her designee. Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Manages the functions of assigned unit/designated program, which includes planning, coordinating, administering, and evaluating programs, projects, processes, procedures, systems, standards, and/or services. Ensures compliance with organizational and Federal, Commonwealth, and local laws, regulations, codes, and/or standards. Serves as a liaison with internal departments, officials, agencies, partners, contractors and other external organizations, groups and representatives. Serves as a representative at a variety of meetings, public events, on committees, and/or other related events regarding services, programs, or projects. Researches, reviews, interprets, analyzes and prepares a variety of information, data, and reports; provides quality control and assurance of assigned functions and services; recommends and implements policies and procedures to improve operational effectiveness and provide enhancements to services or programs. Manages assigned budget and provides input to the annual budget development process. Prepares cost estimates and budget recommendations. Monitors, administers and controls budget allocation and authorizes expenditures. Assists in planning, developing, recommending and implementing goals, objectives, policies, procedures and standards. Coordinates operational and program efforts in alignment with goals and objectives of assigned area of responsibility. Planning, overseeing and providing human resources operations, support and activities; Providing coaching and recommendations to management and staff regarding personnel needs and issues; Working with upper management and legal counsel regarding disciplinary actions; providing guidance and support related to employment processes and programs. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION: Administration, **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: $56,439.00 per annum to $76,192.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): One (1)

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in a directly related field and 5 years of professional experience in the assigned filed including 2 years of leadership experience. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Managerial principles, practices and techniques; Principles, practices, methods and techniques of assigned operational area or functions; Budgeting principles; contract administration principles; Customer service principles; Modern office equipment; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Managing, monitoring, training and evaluating staff; Prioritizing, coordinating, allocating resources and assigning work; Planning, organizing and implementing programs and services; Establishing goals, objectives and standards; Recommending, developing and implementing policies and procedures; Providing technical review, expertise and oversight related to assigned area; Monitoring and implementing quality, compliance and/or safety procedures and processes; Preparing contract documents; Providing contract administration; Researching and analyzing information; Resolving problems and conflict; Developing budget and monitoring compliance; Preparing reports, presentations and other related materials; Delivering presentations and training; Overseeing customer service delivery; Serving as a liaison and technical representative of assigned area; Utilizing a computer relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

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Sales Representative – Hospitality Industry and Lubricants
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Rohingya Muslims need Myanmar to become a safe home

The refugee disaster that recently gripped Southeast Asia has waned, as countries in the region have taken in thousands of the migrants who had been abandoned at sea by smugglers. But the crisis can be expected to return when the monsoon season ends and Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar's coastal Rakhine state once again try to flee persecution by the Buddhist majority. Governments need to work quickly to stem another exodus.

After all, the refugee problem in Southeast Asia lends itself to resolution—unlike the one in the Middle East, where brutal civil wars show no signs of ebbing. Waves of Rohingya migrants have fled Myanmar twice before, in the 1970s and 1990s, only to return, albeit under less-than-ideal circumstances. The goal now must be to create conditions under which they can thrive at home.

While the Burmese government bears primary responsibility for this task, the challenge transcends Myanmar. More than half of the migrants rescued in May were Bangladeshi Muslims fleeing poverty. And the trafficking networks that exploit such migrants, often with the help of local officials and police, are based in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. Australia, which has been justly criticized for turning away refugee boats from its shores, should instead be helping its neighbors coordinate intelligence and information sharing in order to disrupt these networks.

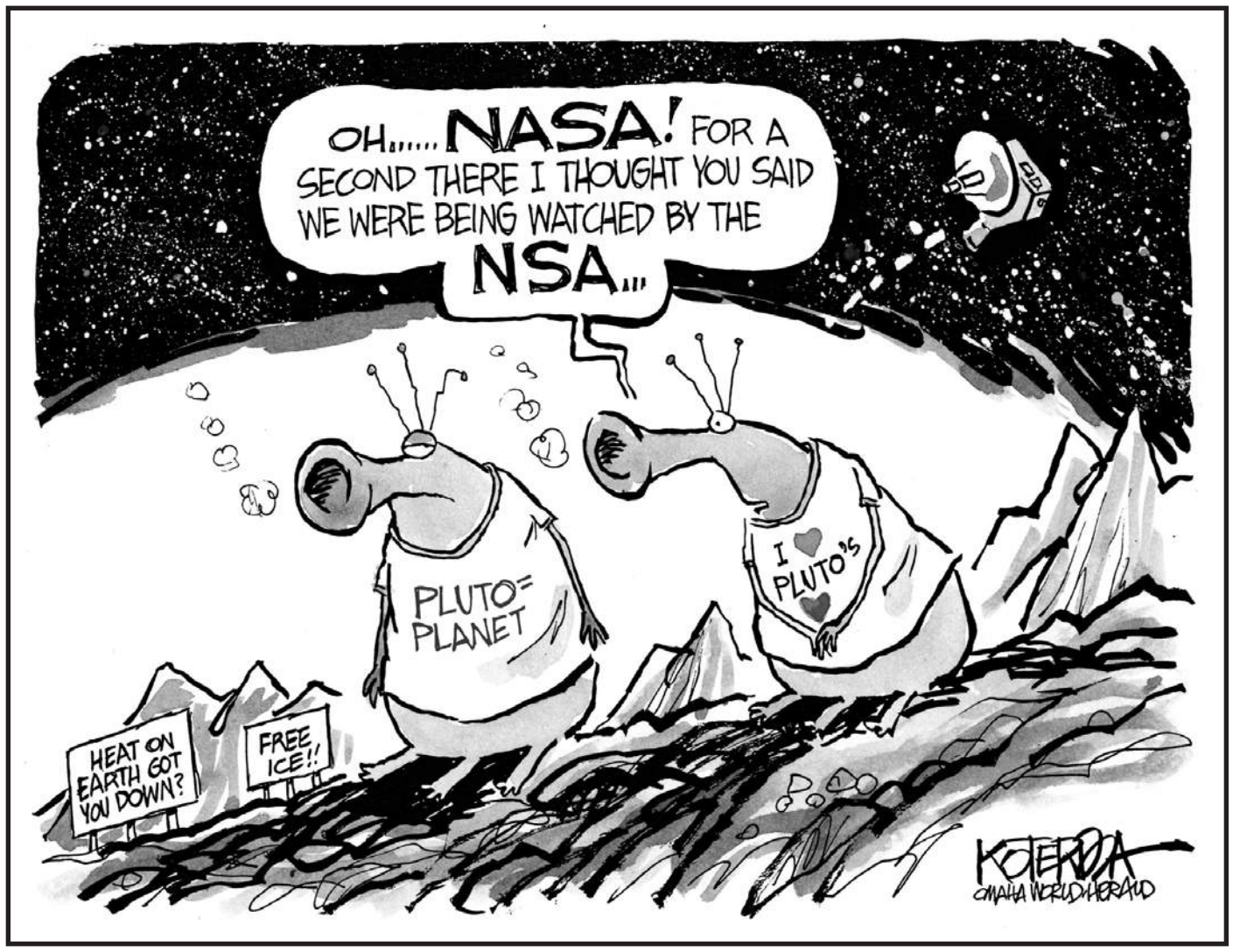
Would-be migrants turn to smugglers because they have no legal means of seeking work abroad. This is why all governments in the region should work out a more transparent guest-worker program, either through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations or through bilateral labor agreements. Singapore, which has set up reasonably effective procedures for recruiting foreign laborers and established a minimum set of protections for them, provides a good model to build on.

That said, Myanmar has a long way to go to improve the lot of the Rohingya, who still do not have full citizenship—and thus the passports they would need to participate in any legal guest-worker program. The Rohingya's roots are fiercely disputed, with some claiming they're indigenous to Rakhine state and others insisting they migrated under the British during colonial times, if not more recently. Granting them political rights remains a third rail in Myanmar and will only become more so in the months leading up to elections this fall. But even if an immediate breakthrough isn't possible, the government can do more to lay the groundwork for change.

As some Burmese officials have suggested, concerned countries around the world could help by contributing to the development of Rakhine. Most outside aid is spent on humanitarian relief for the Rohingya who were displaced by riots in 2012. Donors could build much more goodwill by investing in health and development projects that benefit Buddhists as well as Muslims. The money could be offered with strings attached, including a requirement that Rohingya migrants who have been violently driven from their homes and farms be allowed to return.

For its part, the Burmese government needs to do more to tone down the controversy over whether the Rohingya should be made citizens. Moderates on both sides should, for example, move to abandon the fraught and useless debate over wheth-

See ROHINGYA on Next Page


OH..... NASA! FOR A SECOND THERE I THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE BEING WATCHED BY THE NSA...
PLUTO= PLANET
I ♥ PLUTO'S
HEAT ON EARTH GOT YOU DOWN?
FREE ICE!!
KOTERBA
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD

How will Iran react to deal?

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer*. Readers may write to her at:* Philadelphia Inquirer, *P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.*

Here's one of the questions that worry both critics and supporters of the Iran deal: Will it encourage Tehran to make further mischief in the Middle East?

Iran is the power behind Syria's war-criminal president, Bashar al-Assad, the armorer of Hezbollah, the trainer of Iraqi Shiite militias that fuel sectarian slaughter. And contrary to popular belief, Tehran's policies help ISIS.

So it's legitimate to ask what impact the lifting of sanctions will have on Iran's machinations in the region.

President Obama made clear last week, however, that this question annoys him. "This deal is not contingent on Iran changing its behavior," he snapped at a news conference Tuesday. "It solves one particular problem, which is making sure they don't have a bomb."

Annoying or not, that question demands a response.

The president's Mideast policies were handing the field to the ayatollahs at the expense of our traditional allies even before a deal was reached in Vienna. After sanctions are lifted, Iran will have more money to spend on its proxies in Iraq and Syria.

So it's no wonder most Mideast leaders assume Obama seeks a strategic partnership with Tehran. The ayatollahs, on the other hand, have no such dream.

"There is a conflict within the Iranian regime," says the Carnegie Endowment's Iran expert Karim Sadjadpour, "between modernizers and the supreme leader (Ayatollah Ali Khamenei), whose organizing principle is resistance to the United States."

Unfortunately, Iran's foreign policy is not in the hands of the modernizers, such as President Hassan Rouhani or Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, the smiling chief negotiator who attended the University of Denver. That foreign file is controlled by Khamenei and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, all hard-liners. "Get ready to continue your fight against global arrogance," Khamenei told students in Tehran last week, using Iranian shorthand for Israel and the United States.

The most powerful military figure in Syria and Iraq is the Iranian Gen. Qasim Soleimani, head of the IRGC's Quds force—whose ideas are a far cry from those of the urbane Zarif.

Iran is firmly committed to the survival of Assad, a fellow Shiite. He permits Tehran to resupply missiles, via Syrian soil, to the Hezbollah militia in Lebanon—which is a threat to Israel. Never mind that Assad's slaughter of Sunni civilians led to civil war and the creation of ISIS. Meantime, inside Iraq, Iran backs Shiite militias that are ethnically cleansing Sunnis and driving them into the arms of ISIS.

Although Iran and ISIS are enemies, Iran's strategic view of ISIS is very different from that of the United States.

Tehran knows ISIS is useful to Assad because its control of a third of Syria helps him argue he is a better option to rule the country. So Assad rarely strikes at the jihadis. Inside Iraq, Iran's Shiite proxies only attack ISIS where it threatens Shiite populations. Gen. Soleimani doesn't care if ISIS holds on to the Iraqi Sunni heartlands.

So dreams of partnering with Iran to combat ISIS or resolve the Syrian civil war are a mirage.

Yet Obama appears to nourish such ideas, even as he denies them. "My hope is that building on this deal, we can continue to have conversations with Iran that incentivize them to behave differently in the region," the president said Tuesday. He quickly added, "But we're not counting on it."

OK, then what?

"Obama says don't expect a change in Iranian behavior, but what are we going to do to counter it?" asks Ambassador Ryan Crocker, the legendary former U.S. emissary to Iraq during "the surge." They are ramping up and we don't seem willing to counter them.

"The Iranians have a plan. Where is our plan?"

Crocker's question is doubly important because it comes from a supporter of the nuclear talks. He just signed a letter to the president with 100 former diplomats endorsing the nuclear deal, because he believes it will corral Iran's nuclear program for at least a decade. But the deal with Tehran shouldn't prevent Obama from confronting Iranian mischief in the region, when necessary, says Crocker.

Just the opposite. The president needs to give more direct help to those Arab forces—including remaining Syrian moderates and Iraqi Sunni tribesmen—who want to fight ISIS and are hampered by Iran.

Instead, the administration has let Iran broaden its hold on Syria and Iraq with little pushback. While Iran sent Shiite proxy fighters by the thousands into Syria, to defend Assad, the United States trained only 60 Syrian fighters in the last year to combat ISIS. In Iraq, Obama refuses to give arms directly to Sunni tribes that want to fight ISIS. Instead, Washington funnels the weapons to the Iraqi government, which often hands them to Iranian-backed Shiite militias.

It's enough to make one believe that Obama does harbor dreams that Washington and Tehran will fight ISIS together.

"If he thinks 'Let Iran do it' is a good alternative, that is breathtakingly wrong," Crocker said. "Did Gen. Soleimani write Obama's script?" he asked in frustration.

Too often that almost appears to be true.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Learned hopelessness

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

We love these isles for what we are as a people located in the northwestern Pacific. There's a lot of empathy and strong affinity with "Our Ways," however often a bit tentative on some fronts. It seems that self-inflicted inclement weather has occasionally derailed what would have been better dispositions that hailed from our hearts and sober island intuition.

People at the helm have been basking in their suspect "solutions-driven…" mantra that has lost its luster. It's literally history! Dazed, they are scurrying helter-skelter to avoid the bankruptcy that trails them everywhere. The beastly monstrosity wasn't what they've promised.

Amidst their (elected officials) disorientation, most decent citizens are not ready to accept ill-fated dispositions with tacit approval. I hear the loud silent voices of folks everywhere, revolting silently with sharp frustrations ready to inflict change to better their lot. More than a decade of salary stagnancy is no longer tolerable. The heat has steadily picked up steam. We shall see it turn into a storm sooner than later.

Beyond the vast expanse of the sea, I know of highly intelligent and educated indigenous folks who have made major accomplishments in their careers in communities across the country. From the military to medicine, engineering, nursing, etc. Our people have excelled in umpteen ways we can't understand or appreciate given the distance away from home. Definitely, they shine like the morning star we see at dawn.

Interesting how this pattern of excellence seems totally missing right here at home. It's troublesome knowing the sufficiency of talent that we could organize to plan the destiny of these isles. Nevertheless, it seems we're caught, time and again, in some weird inclement weather, stifling progress that fails to improve the lot of our people.

The constant imposition of this weather is often repeated as to hone the sense of "learned hopelessness." Trust me. We can inflict change for the better. It can be done, collectively!

Destructive federal policies

The centralization of power in Washington has also enlarged the federal bureaucracy as to attempt dictating everything in our private lives. Though D.C. is a complete failure in matters that are best left for decision at the state level, liberals think D.C. should provide everything!

Immigration is one such issue. The various federal agencies have never had a cohesive policy on illegal immigrants. The miscommunication has resulted in the release of hardcore criminals into the streets that end up killing law-abiding Americans.

This grants stronger argument leaving disposition on immigration at the state level. For instance, Texas could easily dispose of illegal immigrants effectively just as soon as crossings occur. The feds need time to figure out which agency takes the lead, if at all.

Here at home it's understood that the economy is closely tied to disposition of labor needs. Satisfying former representative George Miller's assertion of human rights violation only satisfies his labor union bosses at our expense. Clever! Admittedly, though, there were violations of rights we simply ignored while the enemy was busy documenting them.

I waited around for some reasoned fight from local leadership but there's total muted complacency on this issue. It goes to show how easily we buckle in servility on highly destructive federal policies. This needs to be understood and reworked by all worthy of the use of the political armor of representation.

Parental challenges

There are a myriad of competing interests for quality parental time with their children. Amidst the derailing distractions, we quietly quiz the communal demands of culture—to help others—versus what the educational system imposes that largely revolves around individualism.

More often than not we simply flow with the tide—the education of our children—that focuses on core courses and some physical education. The added parental conditioning is success where education simply opens the way for better life for the kid upon graduation from college.

The constant grind for individualism often conflicts with expectations at home. But this too has faded with the single gratification that our kids have finally attained their college education. They become the pride and jewel of the family. It remains a bothersome personal conflict of sort.

Challenge:

With insolvency enlarging like chronic gout around our lower extremities, taxpayers watch intently what imperial Capital Hill would do to cut the cost of government operations. Will it be austerity, reduction in force or a loan to cushion operations cost? Which one is the less disruptive, politically?

Austerity is a wonderful polite nicety measure that doesn't resolve the mounting deficit spending. Need we have more than 3,000 government employees? What have they done collectively to improve the wellbeing of families?

RIF is a tough call, given the fact that city hall has become the largest employer of political cronies and loyalists. So it's treated like some filthy leper! It looks attractive for purposes of controlling wild expenditure but politically damaging. So whose interest factor into this blurred thinking? Taxpayers or Republican loyalists honing a specialty refining the art of "do-nothing?"

This loot is best left in the pockets of hardworking taxpayers who do backbreaking jobs to bring home the bacon doing real work. Think of how much it would have helped your familial obligations over loose spending on useless political loyalists.

What the candidates are saying (and what it really means)

By ANN MCFEATTERS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON—We interrupt your summer to bring you bold, new promises from the growing list of people with huge egos who wish to become president. We helpfully provide translations.

New Jersey Republican Gov. Chris Christie, desperately hoping to be the last man standing when his GOP colleagues knock each other out, says he will "mean what I say and say what I mean."

When he says "shut up and sit down" because it's his town hall meeting, he means it. When he says he didn't shut down a major bridge and inconvenience thousands of his citizens for political retribution, he means he did not physically put out traffic cones. He promises he will be so candid it will "make you cringe ever once in a while."

Never mind that he promised his state an economic recovery that did not materialize, a streamlined pension system that is chaos and ethical purity that has been badly sullied. He will tell us the truth—we are an "anxious" society with enormous problems that he will solve by telling us the truth. As he sees it.

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, yes, the one who has raised more than $114 million—almost twice as much as Hillary Clinton—and the one related to those other Bushes, suggested that Americans need to work longer hours. He quickly amended that to say he means that part-time workers need full-time jobs. But the damage was done. Hillary gleefully suggested that Americans already work much harder than many people around the world and wouldn't it be nice if they got paid accordingly?

Bush pledges to double America's economic rate of growth through the much-derided trickle down policy: You give enough tax breaks to the rich, and voila!, jobs. But it doesn't work. The rich are richer than they have ever been and they aren't creating jobs.

Gov. Scott Walker, the Wisconsin fighter who vows more fights with unions, vows "healthy or sick, born or unborn, I will fight and win for you." Unfortunately, Walker, who did not finish college and instead went into politics, has bad syntax. Technically, he is saying that whether he is healthy or sick, born or unborn, he will fight for the rest of us. Nonetheless, he wants to parse diplomatic nuances with the Iranians.

Walker is in the process of walking back almost everything he has ever said to appeal to Iowa conservatives and evangelicals. His social agenda seems to be evolving. Or rather, devolving. He now wants a constitutional amendment to let states ban same-sex marriage and just signed legislation to ban abortions after 20 weeks.

Walker has been on a government payroll all his adult life. Isn't it interesting that the most anti-government politicians love living off taxpayers? And isn't it interesting that politicians who hate regulating business are the most fervent advocates of regulations that tell the rest of us how to live?

Hillary Clinton promises to restore the good life for middle-class Americans, whom she calls "everyday Americans." This means she will revive the old liberal bromides—a vaguely higher minimum wage (which will not guarantee that you move into the middle class, let alone buy a house), more public child care (expensive) and more regulations (Congress will balk).

But the core problem is that American workers are increasingly lacking in the skills needed to compete in a global economy. Americans are not lazy, as Jeb Bush suggests; young people coming into the workforce are poorly trained and badly educated. We have yet to see bold, new promises to deal with that; companies seriously investing in making workers more skilled and more valuable and much more highly paid, with good benefits.

It means nothing that the buffoon Donald Trump is leading the Republican pack right now except that the few people paying attention to the race to spout the most platitudes are enjoying the joke, knowing Trump will never be president.

On Aug. 6 we'll rejoin the fun when Fox News decides who gets to debate and who will be ostracized. Maybe somebody will actually devise some bold, new ideas. Meanwhile, let's return to summer.

Ann McFeatters is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may send her email at amcfeatters@nationalpress.com.

ROHINGYA

From Page 10

er the people should even be called "Rohingya" or whether they should be referred to instead as "Bengali." The hate speech from some high-profile Buddhist leaders has been tolerated too long.

Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi's reluctance to speak out in defense of the Rohingya may be somewhat understandable ahead of the elections. But as she herself has noted, another outbreak of anti-Rohingya violence in Rakhine could well disrupt the vote. It's in her interests and those of her supporters to tamp down anti-Muslim prejudice now, rather than store up problems for the next government, which her party is expected to dominate. By now it should be clear—to her no less than to Myanmar's current leaders—that the alternative would be tragic.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Liberation Day parade was a great success

Our leadership has proven to be persistent to hold the long awaited Liberation Day parade on July 18, 2005. It was something heroic. Those July 4 and July 11 rainy days have been at least good blessings for our people of the CNMI and the people were able to manifest our strong alliance to our traditions later on. People kept the preparations going, knowing that no matter how cloudy and rainy it might be, the sun is still going to show and add cheer to the celebrations. And it really got all shining when our *man'amko* people were marching. Among the dignitaries were our beautiful Queen Minerva Maghanoy and imposing King Diego Pua. They got lots of attention and cheers of recognition from the people along Beach Road. The *Man'amko* Royal Court and especially it's the beautiful Queen looked so nice and dignified.

I offer my thanks to our mayor, Mr. David Apatang, and his office for the grandious work to put every parade detail into its place. That very nice, heavenly, all-white, and pure-looking tents must be mentioned as an effective and impressive invention. That nicely organized evening concert and its finale, which came as a cascade of colorful and charming fireworks, must also be commended. Good memories of these celebrations are going to be in our minds for a long, long time.

Teddy Guiao
Lower Navy Hill, Saipan

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English-anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Amen Church
Sunday : 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday : 7pm Friday Prayer : 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice : 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation : 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach : 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email : oseyo@daum.net

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Church 360
Suite 103 of Marianas Business Plaza (1st floor of former Nauru Building).
Contact www.church360saipan.org, info@church360saipan.org, or call 888-2116
Celebration Service: Sunday at 10:15am
Prayer Fellowship: Wednesday at 6:00pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 10:00am
Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road,
Call 285-6081 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Living Hope Church of the Nazarene
Isa Drive, I-Denni Hill across from Ponderosa Heights
Bible Studies for all ages: Sunday at 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday at 11:00 am
Pastor Dave Bucher, 256-1142

Marianas Christian Church
Worship Service:
Sunday - 9:00am - 11:00am
Prayer Meeting:
Friday 8:00pm - 9:30pm
Cell Groups
Weeknights 8:00pm - 10:00pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd.
Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1
Contact Nick for more info: 287-1661

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 12, 2015

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Marshalls to host int'l conference for educators

NMC Adult Education announcement

The Northern Marianas College's Adult Education State Office is contacting and encouraging students who had previously taken the 2002 General Educational Degree (GED) National Test Series but did not finish the full battery of tests to visit NMC to make arrangements to complete the exam.

At the end of this year, any scores received under the 2002 series will become null and void, and students will have to take the new test that is being administered for new test takers.

The Adult Education State Office is providing the 2015 HiSET Crosswalk for GED scores (dated from 2007 through 2013) to bridge those students who tested under the 2002 series with current testing scores.

For more information, contact NMC-ABE at 237-6713 or visit Building T at NMC's As Terlaje campus. ***(NMC)***

Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands—The 29th Pacific Educational Conference will be held in Majuro on July 28-31, 2015. This year, PEC is hosted by the Republic of the Marshall Islands Public School System, the College of the Marshall Islands, and Pacific Resources for Education and Learning. PEC 2015—bringing together educators from across the Pacific region, U.S. mainland, Australia, Canada, China, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines—is expected to be the largest international event in the history of the Marshall Islands.

Participants will meet to consider the role of education in improving sustainability and resiliency of island communities under the theme "Our Ocean, Our Islands, Our Children."

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Charles "Chip" Fletcher III, an eminent climate scientist and educator who leads the Coastal Geology Group and is an associate dean at the University of Hawaii.

During the conference, teachers from American Samoa, Chuuk, Guam, Hawaii, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Pohnpei, and Yap will be recognized during a special Pacific Teachers of the Year Awards ceremony. These teachers will be recognized for their excellence in education and share their effective teaching strategies with their colleagues to showcase the talent of homegrown teachers from across the region.

The 2015 Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Teacher of the Year, Marvin Tamangided of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior and Senior High School on Rota, will be honored at the ceremony.

About Pacific Educational Conference

Beginning in 1984, PEC is the largest conference for educators in the Pacific island region. It brings together teachers, administrators, and chief state school officers from around the Pacific. Biennially, it is alternatively hosted by American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap), Hawaii, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau to promote exchanges in educational ideas.

About PREL

The Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (prel.org) is an independent, non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance community well-being through partnerships in education to build sustainability and resiliency across the Pacific islands.

For more information about PEC 2015, Pacific Teachers of the Year Awards or PREL, contact Hendrick Cho at choh@prel.org or +1 (808) 386-1326. ***(PREL)***

POI Aviation is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accounting Manager (1)
College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 3 years experience in directing the monthly closing of books, preparation of financial reports, financial forecast / budgets, doing financial analysis and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system, Peachtree and Microsoft Office software. Airline industry experience preferred. CPA license is desirable but not required. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Accountant (1)
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting; Minimum 2 years experience in accounting; Airline industry experience preferred. Proficient with the use of SAP R3 FICO system, Peachtree and Microsoft Office software. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Senior Account Manager (1)
Bachelor's degree preferred. 5-8 years of relevant job experience in the airline ground handling service industry. Knowledge/Skill Requirement. Project supervision and management. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Excellent oral and written communication skills preferably in English and Korean, or Chinese languages. Must be able to work under time pressure.

Technical Operations Supervisor (1)
Diploma from technical/vocational course in automatic/diesel engines. Four (4) years experience as a GSE Mechanic. Two (2) years in leadership role within a maintenance organization. Extensive knowledge on Pneumatic and Hydraulic System maintenance. Extensive knowledge on specialized and motorized Equipment Electrical and Electronic maintenance. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license. Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position.

Terminal Operations Supervisor (1)
Associate's degree in related field; Five (5) years equivalent work experience; Specific airline certification as load planner; Sufficient mathematical skills to perform manual weight and balance calculations. Thorough knowledge in all areas of ramp, cargo and flight operations; Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations; Excellent written and oral communication skills; Conflict resolution and decision-making with the ability to lead is required. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays; Must have a valid CNMI driver's license; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (3)
Graduate of technical/vocational course on automotive and diesel engines; Minimum 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines; Skilled in local parts fabrication; Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays; Must have a valid CNMI driver's license; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position

Lead Customer Service Agent (Cargo) (1)
Associate's Degree in related field or comparable work experience preferred. Three (3) years equivalent work experience. Knowledge in all areas of cargo operations; Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations; Conflict resolution and decision-making with the ability to lead is required; Excellent written and oral communication skills; Computer literate with good typing skills; Must be able to operate forklift and other cargo-handling equipment. Must be able to lift 70 pounds. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license. Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position

Lead Customer Service Agent (Ramp) (3)
Associate's Degree in related field or comparable work experience preferred. Three (3) years equivalent work experience. Knowledge in all areas of ramp operations; Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations; Conflict resolution and decision-making with the ability to lead is required; Excellent written and oral communication skills; Computer literate with good typing skills; Must be able to lift 70 pounds. Can operate different specialized equipment for aircraft servicing and for ramp operations. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license. Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position

Lead Airport Service Agent (Passenger) (2)
Associate's Degree in related field or comparable work experience preferred. Three (3) years equivalent work experience. Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations; Conflict resolution and decision- making with the ability to lead is required; Excellent written and oral communication skills; Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and a reliable means of transportation; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position

Lead Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) (1)
Associate's Degree in related field or comparable work experience preferred. Three (3) years equivalent work experience. Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations; Conflict resolution and decision- making with the ability to lead is required; Excellent written and oral communication skills; Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and a reliable means of transportation; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position.

Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) - Part Time (6)
Must have at least 6 months related experience. Must be able to routinely move equipment and/or items up to 70 pounds and work well under time pressure. Must be able to regularly ascend/descend stairs to service airplanes. Must be able to stand, lift, bend, push and pull for extended time. Must be willing to work outside in all types of weather and elevated noise levels within the airport environment. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays; Must have a reliable means of transportation; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position.

Load Planning Specialist – Part Time (1)
Associate's degree; * Minimum 2 years experience in functions such as preparing aircraft loading plans, loading and offloading aircraft, operating equipment and ensuring security of cargo in flight; Previous airline and airport operations experience preferred. Strong mathematical skills-ability to formulate and evaluate correct load balance. Strong communication skills-ability to effectively and concisely communicate with station personnel. Strong decision making skills-ability to plan, implement and manage situation. Multitasking-ability to handle multiple high-stress tasks simultaneously. Ability to work for a 24/7 airline operations; days, nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a reliable means of transportation; Reliable, punctual attendance is an essential function of the position.

Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician (1)
Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. AS Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering. Preferably with two years experience on Airframe and Power Plant maintenance; Have work experience on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA and A&P License or an equivalent foreign license. Has at least 2 years leadership experience in similar field of work. Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (Full-Time (3) and Part-time (4))
Perform various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to aircraft to airworthy condition; AS Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering; Minimum 2 years experience on Airframe and Power Plant maintenance; Experience on narrow and wide body aircraft; Must possess either a current U.S. FAA A&P license, equivalent foreign license and experience; Must be flexible to work any shift in a 24/7 operation, including nights, weekends and holidays; Must have a valid CNMI driver's license.

Applications can be obtained at the POI Aviation Building, International Terminal I.P, Saipan International Airport. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than July 27, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Marianas Enterprises Limited

is committed to manage clients' construction projects and to provide hospitality services.
We invite interested professionals to apply for the following positions.

Senior Project Manager

Plan, direct, or coordinate, usually through subordinate supervisory personnel, activities concerned with the construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems. Participate in the conceptual development of a construction project and oversee its organization, scheduling, budgeting, and implementation.

Senior Project Manager Job Duties:
- Confer with supervisory personnel, owners, contractors, or design professionals to discuss and resolve matters, such as work procedures, complaints, or construction problems.
- Plan, schedule, or coordinate construction project activities to meet deadlines.
- Prepare and submit budget estimates, progress reports, or cost tracking reports.
- Inspect or review projects to monitor compliance with building and safety codes, or other regulations. Inspect or review projects to monitor compliance with environmental regulations.
- Plan, organize, or direct activities concerned with the construction or maintenance of structures, facilities, or systems.
- Study job specifications to determine appropriate construction methods.
- Investigate damage, accidents, or delays at construction sites to ensure that proper construction procedures are being followed.
- Prepare contracts or negotiate revisions to contractual agreements with architects, consultants, clients, suppliers, or subcontractors.
- Develop or implement quality control programs.

Skills and Qualifications:
- Knowledge of materials, methods, and the tools involved in the construction or repair of houses, buildings, or other structures such as highways and roads.
- Knowledge of business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources modeling, leadership technique, production methods, and coordination of people and resources.
- Knowledge of the practical application of engineering science and technology. This includes applying principles, techniques, procedures, and equipment to the design and production of various goods and services.
- Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models.
- Knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance.
- Knowledge of relevant equipment, policies, procedures, and strategies to promote effective local, state, or national security operations for the protection of people, data, property, and institutions.
- Knowledge of scheduling tools
- Able to speak, red, and write in excellent English and Chinese

Education/Experience needed:
- College graduate and have worked in the related professional field for over 15 years. Prior experience in Saipan or Guam is preferred but not necessary,
- Should have work in the capacity as client representative, engineer, design consultant or contractor.
- An equivalent combination of education and experience. Candidate with fewer years of experience but holds a Masters degree or above will be also be considered.

$78,000 to $120,000/yearly
Salary is commensurate with experience.

Guest Relations Officer

Job Duties:
Act as an introducer to plan and coordinate the provision of friendly, efficient services to guests. Make dining and other reservations for patrons, and obtain tickets for events. Make travel arrangements for sightseeing and other tours. Receive, store, and deliver luggage and mail. Perform office duties on atemporary basis when needed. Pick up and deliver items, or run errands for guests. Arrange for the replacement of items lost by travelers. Act as interpreters or translators when patrons require such services. Perform other related duties as assigned. Perform general administration duties including but not limited to filing, meeting preparation, travel bookings, online research etc.

Qualification Requirements:
Must be a high school graduate or equivalent. Preferably have knowledge of the structure and content of the Korean or the Mandarin language preferred. Minimum two years of customer service or hospitality preferred. Position will be primarily based in our Saipan head office but may be expected to travel between head office and other locations (like Hong Kong, Beijing, Macao, Japan, etc.

$6.05 to $7.00/Hourly

Head of Human Resource

Job Duties:
Human Resource:
- Develop organization strategies by identifying and researching human resources issues;
- Implements human resources strategies by establishing department accountabilities, incl. talent acquisition, staffing, employment processing, compensation, health and welfare benefits, training and development , safety and health, employee relations and retention and labor relations
- Manages human resources operations in Beijing, HK and Saipan offices by recruiting, selecting, orienting, training ,coaching, counseling, and disciplining staff; planning, monitoring and reviewing staff job contributions; maintaining compensation.
- Complies with federal, state and local legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation; anticipating legislation; enforcing adherence to requirements; advising managements on needed actions
- Guides management and employee actions by researching, developing, writing, and updating policies, procedures, and guidelines; communicating and enforcing organization values.

Public Relations:
- Develop PR strategies, campaigns , and initiatives to improve public perception of company
- Coordinate relations across Beijing, HK and Saipan offices
- Prepare and publish newsletter and other company literature
- Respond to information queries from media and the general public
- Develop and maintain corporate image and logos
- Maintain effective working relationships with local government and media
- Develop and launch Internet web pages

Administration:
- Manages the facilities projects
- Purchasing management,
- General affairs, incl. travel, equipment repairing and maintenance, fixed assets management and internal services
- Develop and manages budget, make expenditure analysis

Qualification Requirements
College graduate or above, MBA is preferred but not necessary
have worked in the related professional field for over 15 years

$72,000 to $100,000/yearly
Salary is commensurate with experience.

Interested applicants may send their resume to qixing.yang@imperialpacific.com.cn. For more information, please call 323-9188

70th Liberation Day Parade

Lions Club International District of USA. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Liberation Queen 2015 Pressel Camacho waves to the crowd. JAYSON CAMACHO

The Liberation Day parade also became a venue for "Save Pagan" advocacy. JAYSON CAMACHO

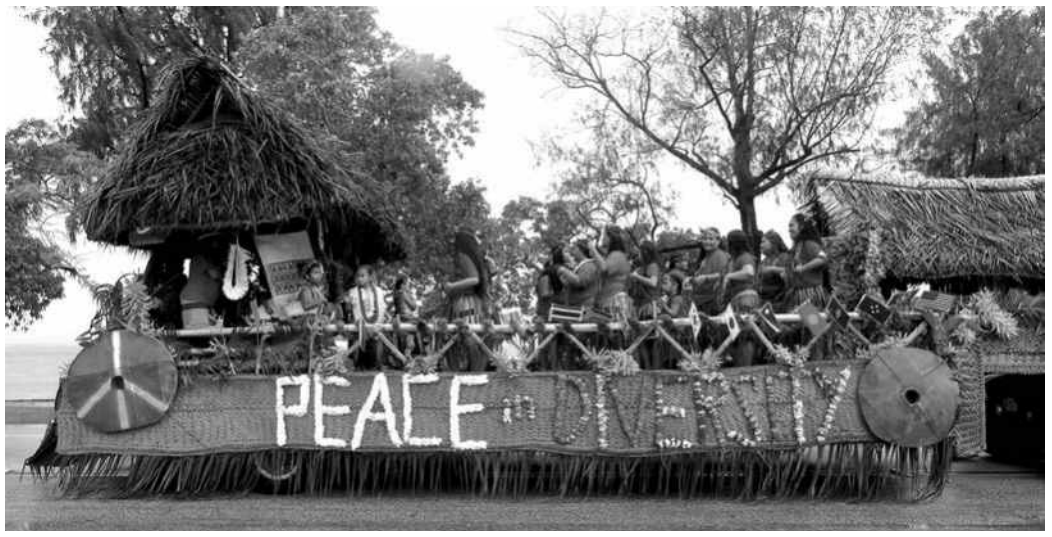
Best Sunshine executives pose with acting governor Ralph DLG. Torres and other government officials. JAYSON CAMACHO

Members of the Saipan Falun Dafa Association dance in front of the main stage. JAYSON CAMACHO

Go-karts were also part of the Liberation Day parade. JAYSON CAMACHO

Dogs for adoption were paraded last Saturday. JAYSON CAMACHO

Cultural dancers bring local flair to the parade. JAYSON CAMACHO

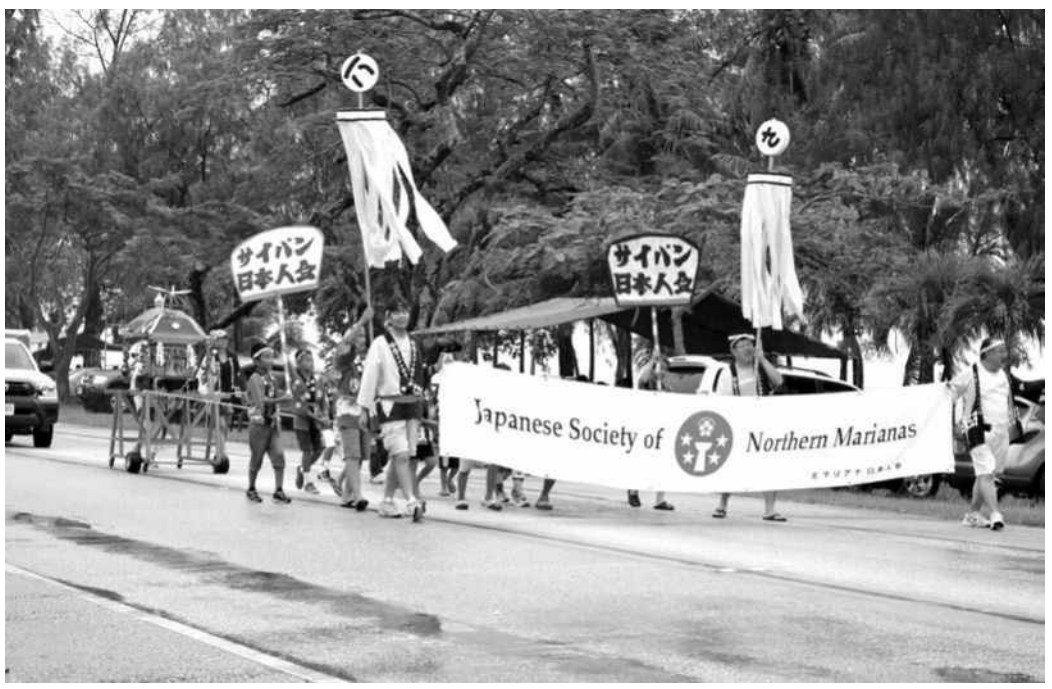


The winning float of the Yapese community. JOEL PINAROC

Korean Association of Saipan members don national costumes. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

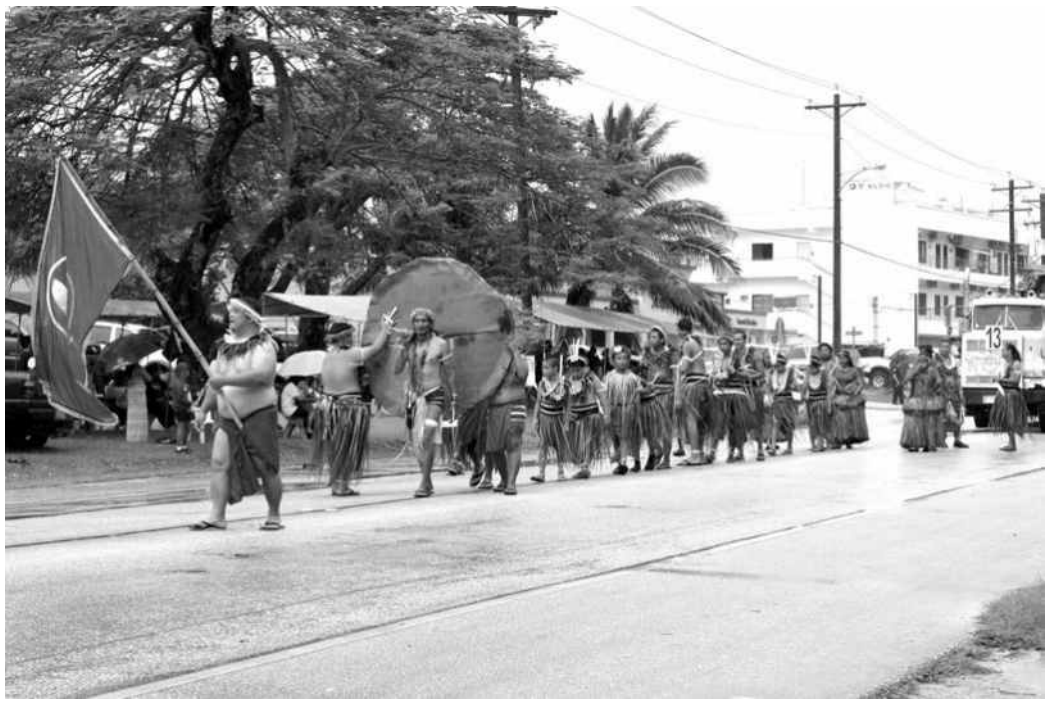
The Mariana Country Club float. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

The KKMP Alternative Zero Coalition float. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



Members of the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas march wearing kimonos. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

United Filipino Organization's float featured a paradise-like scene with people from different cultures having fun. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



The Yapese community marches with their traditional outfit. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

The Liberation Day Royal Court offers flowers at the memorial for the 13 fishermen who were lost at sea. FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Business

Families face tough decisions as cost of elder care soars

NEW YORK (AP)—Doris Ranzman had followed the expert advice, planning ahead in case she wound up unable to care for herself one day. But when a nursing-home bill tops $14,000 a month, the best-laid plans get tossed aside.

Even with insurance and her Social Security check, Ranzman still had to come up with around $4,000 every month to cover her care in the Amsterdam Nursing Home in Manhattan. "An awful situation," said her daughter, Sharon Goldblum.

Like others faced with the stunning cost of elderly care in the U.S., Goldblum did the math and realized that her mother could easily outlive her savings. So she pulled her out of the home.

For the two-thirds of Americans over 65 who are expected to need some long-term care, the costs are increasingly beyond reach. The cost of staying in a nursing home has climbed at twice the rate of overall inflation over the last five years, according to the insurer Genworth Financial. One year in a private room now runs a median $91,000 a year, while one year of visits from home-health aides runs $45,760.

Goldblum estimates that she and her mother spent at least $300,000 over the last two years for care that insurance didn't cover.

"If you have any money, you're going to use all of that money," Goldblum said. "Just watch how fast it goes."

How do people manage the widening gap between their savings and the high cost of caring for the elderly? Medicare doesn't cover long-term stays, so a large swath of elderly people wind up on the government's health insurance program for the poor, Medicaid. For those solidly in the middle class, however, the answer isn't so simple. They have too much money to apply for Medicaid but not enough to cover the typical three years of care.

AP

In this July 1, 2015 photo, Roslyn Duffy poses for a photo holding two photos of her late mother, Evelyn Nappa, at her home in Seattle.

Some 60 percent of Americans nearing retirement—those between the ages of 55 and 64—have retirement accounts, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute. The median balance is $104,000.

Combined with other savings and income, that amount might provide some retirees with all they need for decades. But everything changes when, for instance, an aging father struggling with dementia requires more help than his wife and children can manage. Plans that looked solid on paper are no match for their bills.

"Within the first year most people are tapped out," said Joe Caldwell, director of long-term services at the National Council on Aging. "Middle-class families just aren't prepared for these costs."

Many who can afford it buy insurance to help pay for long-term care years in advance, when insurers are less likely to reject them. But even those with insurance, like Ranzman, come up short. Forced to improvise, they sell the house and lean on family. They move in with their adult children, or arrange for their children to move in with them.

Some can save money by switching to different facilities. On average, a shared room in a nursing home runs nearly $11,000 a year less than a private room, and a room in an adult-family home runs cheaper still.

Still, there's not a lot of room for creativity, said Liz Taylor, a self-employed geriatric care manager in Lopez Island, Washington. "The amount of care you need dictates the price," she said, "and there aren't that many ways around it."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Apple has cash cow in iPhone even as phone industry slows

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Smartphone sales may be slowing for some tech companies, but not for Apple. Analysts expect another powerhouse performance from the California tech giant when it reports quarterly financial results Tuesday. Apple's signature iPhones remain popular, even as other smartphone makers are seeing demand slow down. Wall Street analysts estimate Apple will report a hefty $10.3 billion in profit after selling $49 billion worth of iPhones, iPads, Mac computers and other products during the April-June quarter. That's an increase of more than 30 percent in both revenue and profit from the same period a year earlier.

Fed directs 8 biggest US banks to hold extra capital

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal regulators are directing the eight biggest U.S. banks to hold capital at levels above industry requirements to cushion against unexpected losses and reduce the chances of future taxpayer bailouts. The Federal Reserve's action Monday means the eight banks together will be required to shore up their financial bases with about $200 billion in additional capital. The requirements also are aimed at encouraging the Wall Street mega-banks to shrink so they pose less risk to the financial system. The banks include JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup and Bank of America. Most of the banks have already put away the additional capital.

Lockheed Martin to buy Sikorsky Aircraft for $9 billion

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Lockheed Martin will acquire Black Hawk helicopter maker Sikorsky Aircraft for $9 billion as it seeks greater access to the military and commercial helicopter market. United Technologies Corp. said in June it planned to shed Sikorsky so that the aerospace and building systems conglomerate could better focus on high-technology systems for both of those industries. Lockheed will add the world's largest builder of military helicopters to its arsenal.

Greek banks reopen but cash limits remain and taxes soar

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greek banks reopened Monday for the first time in three weeks, but strict limits on cash withdrawals and higher taxes on everything from coffee to diapers meant the economic outlook for the recession-battered country was far from back to normal. There were hopeful developments: The cash-strapped nation got a short-term loan from European creditors to pay more than 6 billion euros ($6.5 billion) owed to the International Monetary Fund and the European Central Bank. Non-payment of either would have derailed Greece's latest bailout request. But for most Greeks, already buffeted by six years of recession, Monday was all about rising prices as tax hikes demanded by creditors took effect.

Nation

Details of Tennessee shooter's life emerge but motive remains elusive

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP)—Bits and pieces have emerged over the past few days about Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez's troubled life. But two significant pieces of the puzzle missing: Why did he ambush two military sites, killing four Marines and a sailor? And was he propelled to do so by his own demons or at the direction of someone else?

Until last Thursday's shooting, the Kuwait-born 24-year-old was not on the radar of terrorism investigators. However, unlike situations where a suspect is known to authorities, investigators did not have a head start. As a result, a portrait of his background, contacts, computer use and travels must be assembled from the ground up and pieced together.

He blended into everyday life in Chattanooga as a clean-cut high school wrestler who graduated from college with an engineering degree and regularly attended a local mosque.

But he also had a more turbulent side, as evidenced by his arrest for drunken driving after returning from Jordan. He was set to face a judge later this month.

Abdulazeez was killed in a shootout with police at a Marine-Navy facility where the slain servicemen were killed. Authorities said Abdulazeez was driving a rented silver Mustang convertible, wore a vest with extra ammunition and wielded at least two long guns—either rifles or shotguns—and a handgun.

On Monday, yellow police tape still blocked access to it and law enforcement vehicles were parked nearby with lights flashing.

About 7 miles away, in a small strip shopping center, hundreds of people—many carrying American flags and some with Confederate battle flags—gathered outside the military recruiting office where the rampage began. The windows, several of which were pocked with bullet holes after the shooting, have since been covered with plywood.

Another global heat record is broken

WASHINGTON (AP)—Earth dialed the heat up in June, smashing warm temperature records for both the month and the first half of the year.

Off-the-charts heat is "getting to be a monthly thing," said Jessica Blunden, a climate scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. June was the fourth month of 2015 that set a record, she said.

"There is almost no way that 2015 isn't going to be the warmest on record," she added.

NOAA calculated that the world's average temperature in June hit 61.48 degrees Fahrenheit (16.33 Celsius), breaking the old record set last year by 0.22 degrees (.12 degrees Celsius). Usually temperature records are broken by one or two one-hundredths of a degree, not nearly a quarter of a degree, Blunden said.

And the picture is even more dramatic when the half-year is considered.

The first six months of 2015 were one-sixth of a degree warmer than the old record, set in 2010, averaging 57.83 degrees (14.35 Celsius).

The old record for the first half of the year was set in 2010, the last time there was an El Nino—a warming of the central Pacific Ocean that changes weather worldwide. But in 2010, the El Nino petered out. This year, forecasters are predicting this El Nino will get stronger, not weaker.

"If that happens, it's just going to go off the charts," Blunden said.

June was warm nearly all over the world, with exceptional heat in Spain, Austria, parts of Asia, Australia and South America. Southern Pakistan had a June heat wave that killed more than 1,200 people—which, according to an international database, would be the eighth deadliest in the world since 1900. In May, a heat wave in India claimed more than 2,000 lives and ranked as the fifth deadliest on record.

May and March also broke monthly heat records, which go back 136 years. Initially NOAA figured February 2015 was only the second hottest February on record, but new data came in that made it too the hottest, Blunden said. Earth has broken monthly heat records 25 times since the year 2000, but hasn't broken a monthly cold record since 1916.

Trump's self-paid bid means he's not going away

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump faced an avalanche of fresh criticism Monday for questioning Sen. John McCain's heroism. But he's getting no pressure at all from the one community that could push a candidate out of the 2016 presidential race: political donors.

The billionaire businessman is paying for his own campaign, and that means Republicans may have him around far longer than some party leaders would like.

"Nobody leaves a race because they get tired, or because they think they don't have the votes. They leave the race because they run out of money," said Frank Luntz, a GOP pollster. "Donald Trump will never run out of money, and that makes him incredibly powerful."

Indeed, Republican operatives suggest that Trump enjoys a rare freedom.

Because he doesn't need tens of millions of dollars from wealthy donors—a notoriously risk-averse crowd—the standard rules of politics simply don't apply. He can afford, literally, to continue dropping the verbal bombs that have defined his presidential campaign since the day he joined the 2016 contest in June.

At his formal announcement last month, Trump portrayed immigrants from Mexico as criminals and rapists. Then, at a conservative summit in Iowa last weekend, he dismissed McCain's reputation as a war hero, saying of the Arizona senator who was held five years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, "I like people who weren't captured."

Trump defended his comments repeatedly over the weekend, but appeared to toning down his rhetoric late Monday.

"If there was a misunderstanding, I would totally take that back," he said in an evening interview on Fox News Channel's "The O'Reilly Factor". On "CBS Evening News", he said, "I don't know if I made a mistake."

Critics began piling on Trump immediately after he made his comments on Saturday, and new voices emerged on Monday, from veterans groups, Republican colleagues and President Barack Obama's spokesman, who defended McCain and called on Trump to apologize.

Paul Rieckhoff, founder of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, said Monday that Trump's "asinine comments" were "an insult to everyone who has ever worn the uniform—and to all Americans."

Asia

Former Chinese president's top aide to face corruption charges

BEIJING (AP)—Former President Hu Jintao's top aide has been arrested on corruption charges, stripped of his party membership and removed from all government positions, China's state media said Monday.

The ruling by the Communist Party's Politburo came seven months after Ling Jihua was placed under internal investigation for disciplinary violations.

The fall of Ling, whose former position is comparable to the U.S. president's chief of staff, has come amid a stern anti-corruption campaign by Hu's successor Xi Jinping. The campaign is seen by many as a means to not only restore public confidence in the ruling party, but also to root out threats to Xi's political dominance.

Jeffrey Bader, a senior fellow at Washington-based think tank Brookings Institution, said the expulsion of Ling from the party and the arrest was long expected.

"It's the sign of the determination of Xi Jinpng and the leadership to go after high-level actors in the anti-corruption campaign," Bader said.

The political motivation to purge Ling is unclear, said Steve Tsang, senior fellow at the University of Nottingham's China Policy Institute. "We have not heard of any real personal grudge that Xi Jinping would have against Ling Jihua," Tsang said.

AP

In this Wednesday March 14, 2012, file photo, Ling Jihua, a loyal aide and confidante to President Hu Jintao looks on as he attends the closing ceremony of the National People's Congress at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Ling held a sensitive position but never made into the party's top echelon.

His disgrace followed the fall of two more prominent Chinese political figures—former Politburo member Bo Xilai and Zhou Yongkang, who served on the Politburo's standing committee until his 2012 retirement. But unlike Bo and Zhou, Ling had no clear evidence of opposing Xi, and the Youth League faction to which Ling belonged has not been politically targeted at the high level, Tsang said.

Ling, formerly head of the party's general office under Hu, became well known in China in 2012 when his son crashed a Ferrari in Beijing with two nude or half-dressed women, according to various reports. Ling was accused of covering up the scandal.

Ling had appeared destined for a seat in the party's Politburo in late 2012, but instead was removed from the top leadership and named head of the United Front Work Department.

The Xinhua News Agency said the internal investigation found Ling took huge amounts of money through bribery and used his position to seek benefits for others. It said Ling had allowed his family to benefit financially from his political influence. The report specifically said Ling's wife, Gu Liping, received bribes and that her business activities benefited from Ling's status. Gu was involved with non-government organizations on youth issues.

Ling obtained many core secrets of the party and the country in violation of party discipline and the law, Xinhua said.

He also was accused of having multiple illicit affairs in violation of party rules.

Teen hostage escapes Philippine militants

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A teenager who was kidnapped by Abu Sayyaf gunmen in March escaped her captors Monday when government troops discovered the militants' jungle hideout in the southern Philippines, the military said.

Store cashier Ledejie Tomarong and two children had been snatched by at least six gunmen who failed to kidnap the teen's employer, a wealthy bakery owner, in Zamboanga del Sur province. The militants apparently seized the three to use as human shields, Sulu provincial military commander Col. Alan Arrojado said.

As the militants fled from the advancing troops, Tomarong, 18, dashed to freedom and was found by villagers who brought her to a military camp, Arrojado said.

The gunmen killed one of the children, who kept crying, apparently to avoid being detected by authorities, officials said.

"She was very confused but she was unharmed," Arrojado said of Tomarong. "She managed to escape in the confusion when the Abu Sayyaf men saw the troops in their encampment and fled in all directions."

Arrojado said by telephone that the militants were still holding about a dozen Filipino and foreign captives in Sulu's jungles, including a Dutch wildlife photographer who was kidnapped more than two years ago.

The Abu Sayyaf is considered a terrorist organization for deadly bombings, kidnappings for ransom, beheadings and extortion in the southern provinces that are the homeland of minority Muslims in the largely Roman Catholic nation.

It splintered from a larger Muslim secessionist group in the early 1990s but lost key commanders in combat, sending it to a violent path of criminality and extremism.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai official: Uighurs sent back to China being treated well

BANGKOK (AP)—The 109 ethnic Uighur refugees whose deportation to China by Thailand this month sparked an international outcry are being been treated well at a rehabilitation center where they've been held since their return, Thailand's national security chief said Monday. He said some were being investigated for their alleged involvement in terrorism. Thai authorities sent back the Uighurs, who had been in Thailand for over a year and claimed to be Turkish, after determining they were Chinese. The repatriations were criticized by the U.N. refugee agency, the United States and others. In Turkey's capital, Istanbul, protesters ransacked the Thai Consulate to denounce the decision.

NATO strike kills 7 Afghan troops during fight with Taliban

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A NATO airstrike hit two Afghan military checkpoints on Monday in a restive province east of the capital, Kabul, killing seven Afghan troops in what an Afghan official described as an accident due to bad coordination. The Afghan president, Ashraf Ghani, expressed his "profound sorrow" over the tragedy and ordered an investigation into the killings. The incident happened as coalition helicopters were flying over an area in Logar province where clashes were underway between Afghan troops and Taliban fighters, the Afghan Ministry of Defense said.

World

Death toll from Yemen's rebel shelling doubles to nearly 100

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—The death toll in Yemen from the Shiite rebel shelling of a town near the southern port city of Aden rose Monday to nearly 100, the head of an international aid group said, describing it as "the worst day" for the city and its surroundings in over three months of fighting.

The rebels, known as Houthis, and their allies started shelled the town of Dar Saad on Sunday after earlier losing control of some of Aden's neighborhoods. The violence highlighted the bloody chaos of the civil war gripping the Arab world's poorest country, which also has been the target of Saudi-led, U.S.-backed airstrikes since late March.

Hassan Boucenine of the Geneva-based Doctors Without Borders said that by Monday, his organization reported nearly 100 people dead, twice the casualty toll from the previous day.

The shelling also wounded about 200 people, said Boucenine, the head of the organization in Yemen. Of the victims, 80 percent are civilians, including many pregnant women, elderly and children, he added.

"Yesterday was the worst day in Aden since (the Saudi-led coalition campaign) started in March," Boucenine told The Associated Press, adding that he fears "attacks on civilians will continue."

Sunday's shelling in Dar Saad began after the Houthi rebels lost control of much of the Aden district of Tawahi, according to officials and witnesses. Tawahi is now under a security lockdown, the officials said, as anti-Houthi forces search buildings looking for rebels, some of whom had fled to the nearby mountains.

AP

A vendor salvages goods from the rubble of his shop destroyed by a Saudi-led airstrike at a market in Sanaa, Yemen, Monday, July 20, 2015.

Overnight, the Saudi-led coalition targeted Houthi positions north of Aden and in Dar Saad, killing at least 55 rebels, officials and witnesses said.

The coalition also struck the home of Mehdi Meqlawa, a prominent supporter of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in a Sanaa suburb. In the Yemeni capital, it also hit Houthi headquarters near the Souq Aziz market, killing one person.

Rebel shelling continued Monday in Taiz, Yemen's third-largest city, killing eight residents, while ground fighting raged on in Marib, with six anti-Houthi tribesmen and 10 Houthi fighters killed in clashes. All officials and eyewitnesses spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters or feared reprisals.

Houthi officials declined to comment on the fighting.

The spokesman of the Yemeni government in exile, Rageh Badie, said they appointed the head of the Resistance Council, Nayef al-Bakri, as governor of Aden. Al-Bakri served as deputy to the former governor, Abdulaziz bin Habtoor, who fled the embattled city earlier this year. Al-Bakri is joined by the exiled deputy minister of health and the transportation and interior ministers, who have flown into Aden two days ago from Saudi Arabia. Other exiled ministers will follow suit over the next few weeks, Badie said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Airstrikes on IS-held town in northern Syria kill 20

BAGHDAD (AP)—More than 20 people have been killed, many of them children, and dozens of others wounded Monday in airstrikes that targeted a northern Syria town held by the Islamic State group, activists and the IS group said. The airstrikes that targeted the town of Manbej in Aleppo province were most likely carried out by Syrian army warplanes, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. It said the death toll was likely to rise because many of the wounded suffered critical injuries. Twitter and Facebook accounts affiliated with the Islamic State group said 26 people were killed and around 100 others wounded in the attacks.

Suspected Boko Haram fighters kill 23 in north Cameroon

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP)—Suspected Boko Haram militants have killed more than 20 people including multiple children in their latest attack on northern Cameroon, easily overwhelming the few soldiers posted at the targeted village, residents said Monday. More than 80 assailants stormed the village of Kamouna, located near Lake Chad in the northern strip of Cameroon that lies between Nigeria and Chad, on Sunday night, said Pastor Edward Ngosu, a Nigerian missionary who has been based in the village for four years.

UN endorses Iran nuclear deal with 6 world powers

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. Security Council on Monday unanimously endorsed the landmark deal to rein in Iran's nuclear program and authorized measures leading to the end of U.N. sanctions, but also approved a provision that would automatically reinstate the harsh measures if Tehran reneges on its promises. European Union foreign ministers meeting in Brussels immediately followed suit, endorsing the agreement between Iran and six major powers and taking the first step to lift EU sanctions.

Turkey suspects Islamic State behind bomb that killed 31

ISTANBUL (AP)—Authorities suspected the Islamic State group was behind an apparent suicide bombing Monday in southeastern Turkey that killed 31 people and wounded nearly 100—a development that could represent a major expansion by the extremists at a time when the government is stepping up efforts against them. Turkish officials vowed to strike back at those behind the attack in the city of Suruc targeting a group of political activists who wanted to help the shattered Syrian city of Kobani, a bombing that turned a moment of hope into a scene of horror. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but a senior government official told The Associated Press that Turkey suspected the IS group was behind the blast as retaliation for Turkey's steps against the militants.

Focus

In this June 29, 2015 photo, tourists visit a part of Hashima Island, commonly known as Gunkanjima, which means "Battleship Island," off Nagasaki, Nagasaki Prefecture, southern Japan. AP

Japan's UNESCO heritage bid draws ire over past labor abuse

GUNKANJIMA, Japan (AP)—Of countless ghostly abandoned factories and mines in Japan, this fortress island near Nagasaki is among the most notorious. It is also a source of national pride.

Gunkanjima, or Battleship Island, is one of 23 old industrial facilities seeking UNESCO's recognition as world heritage "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution" meant to illustrate Japan's rapid transformation from a feudal farming society into an industrial power at the end of the 19th century.

UNESCO's World Heritage Committee is expected to approve the proposal during a meeting being held in Bonn, Germany, through July 9 after Japan and South Korea informally agreed on a promise to acknowledge, though it is unclear how, that Koreans were among the people who toiled at Gunkanjima and some other sites. The compromise also includes an agreement by Japan to support South Korean proposals for some world heritage site listings.

Japan's bid for UNESCO recognition is confined to the 1868-1912 era of the Meiji Emperor, who presided over the country's rush to industrialize and catch up with Western colonial powers. It excludes the years that followed, when Japan annexed Korea and eventually invaded China and other parts of Asia before and during World War II.

The proposal makes no mention of the grim interlude when, toward the war's end, tens of thousands of Koreans, and also Chinese and foreign prisoners of war were forced to toil under dire conditions in Japanese factories and mines.

But both the government and most Japanese companies have insisted that post-war reparations have left them with no further responsibility to apologize or compensate for those abuses.

Plans to acknowledge the wartime forced labor in what originally was meant to be just a "feel good" approach to history could help alleviate friction with Japan's neighbors, said Andrew Gordon, a historian at Harvard University.

But, he added, "It's not just forced labor.

"There's terrible working conditions, and there's strikes and there's a whole social history that's part of it, and if it's just going to be glossed over, left as a footnote or even left out, then that's an equally big problem," he said.

The UNESCO stamp of approval would boost tourism in Nagasaki, a rust-belt city that has yet to benefit much from Japan's stuttering economic recovery. The sites proposed to UNESCO for recognition include shipyards and steel works, ports, mines, industrial furnaces, docks and a huge crane still used at Mitsubishi's main shipyard in Nagasaki. Such "Industrial Tourism," also is seen as a way to revive pride in Japan's manufacturing prowess after two decades of economic stagnation.

Gunkanjima, officially known as Hashima, lacks fresh water, is just 6.3 hecares (16 acres) in total area and was uninhabited until coal was discovered there about 200 years ago. The Mitsubishi industrial group acquired the island 15 kilometers (9 miles) from Nagasaki in the late 1800s, digging ever deeper under the sea while reclaiming land above.

Residents lived in a citadel of high-rise apartment buildings, the first in Japan built with steel-reinforced concrete, which stood behind sea walls that sometimes were no match for typhoons pounding in from the East China Sea.

Eventually, undersea pipes funneled water and electricity to the about 5,000 residents living in what once was the most densely crowded place on the planet—a community with a cinema, hospital, school, swimming pool and many other amenities typical of life elsewhere in Japan.

For Doutoku Sakamoto and others who once called Gunkanjima home, the designation could lend deeper meaning for their own displacement in 1974, when Mitsubishi closed and sealed the mine and vacated the island as Japan's national energy policy shifted toward greater reliance on oil imports.

> This is a lesson from history, something to learn about the future. Is this the kind of future we want?

"It was the thing more precious than human lives, the coal," Sakamoto told a group of tourists recently visiting the island, where he lived as a teenager and now leads tours through its deserted ruins. Before it opened to public tours in 2009, visitors mainly were former residents or "haikyo," or ruins explorers who documented the island's hauntingly emptied apartments and crumbling walls.

Sakamoto helped launch the drive to win world heritage status for Gunkanjima. He sees the island as a stark reminder of the costs of modernization, and as a warning example of the potential consequences of unsustainable development.

"This is a lesson from history, something to learn about the future. Is this the kind of future we want?" Sakamoto said.

The island's heyday in the 1950s and `60s came after its coal output already peaked. It was ramped up to power steel mills and shipyards during World War II, when, with so many Japanese men fighting in the military, the wartime government forcibly brought Koreans to work there.

Under the rigid military regime of the time, escape was nearly impossible, from the island and from the other sites.

Joo Seok-Bong, 90, was put to work in 1943 at the Yawata steel mill in northern Kyushu, shoveling coal and doing other menial labor.

"I was always starving since I received very little food. During that time, we were most terrified of dying from bombardment, but I suffered from hunger the most," said Joo, who nonetheless said he believed he and other Koreans got better treatment than the POWs.

Joo is among former Korean laborers who are suing Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp., the company that now owns the steel works, seeking his unpaid wages and an apology.

"The world has changed, but this company refuses to reflect on its past deeds," he said.

Former Chinese laborers also have renewed efforts to get apologies from Japan for the forced labor, as have some prisoners of war.

Lester Tenney, of Carlsbad, California, has sought for years to get an apology from the companies that ran the mine where he says he was forced to toil 12 hours a day while a prisoner of war.

"I believe that the newly created Nippon Coke & Engineering Co. has a responsibility to offer an apology to former POWs for the inhumane treatment by its predecessor, Mitsui Mining Co." he said in a letter to Nippon Coke and Engineering.

Both the mine and the mill are among the places seeking the UNESCO designation.

Photos and other documents from that era show men starved to a skeletal state. Many died of beatings, overwork and untreated illnesses.

Sakamoto and others who grew up in the industrious but peaceful years after the war say they know little of that history. But acknowledging that times were hard for everyone does not preclude conveying the history of the wartime years and those abuses, he says.

"It's good that we are not avoiding this history. It's important that it be included. This was the first area where Asia began to copy the West and modernize. And then we brought people from China, Russia, Korea, I'm not too clear about that, but that history has to be clearly conveyed," he said.

"It's not so much a matter of victims as of facing up to history," he said.

Overdrive

Mini 'hardtop' is really a sedan but still stylish

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Minis must be grappling with the lumps, bumps and psychic bruises of middle age.

Not that I would know anything about rising hairlines and falling pectorals, of course—forever young, dudes and dude-ettes.

But some Mini Coopers seem to be outgrowing their genes these days.

Their DNA has always been tiny, expressed in comically square clown cars that are smaller than some American refrigerators.

Those odd little Minis could dart through traffic and screech around corners with amazing grace, considering their dinky engines and wheelbarrow-size tires.

They always looked like something a grumpy old socialist would drive to his job as a bureaucrat. But when pressed, they ran like wild-eyed urban rebels.

Then, as you may recall, BMW bought Rover about 15 years ago, becoming Mini's new overlord.

A year or so later, an all-new Mini arrived—larger, more chic and kind of a boutique compact, though still packing lots of romp and zip.

But 15 years is middle age in the auto industry, and the Mini seems to be constantly searching for ways to reinvent itself. (Does any of this sound mildly familiar, by the way?)

So now we have a four-door "hardtop" Mini—vaguely related in name, I guess, to those hugely stylish American four-door hardtops from the '50s and '60s.

Only the 2015 Mini Cooper S Hardtop isn't a hardtop at all. It's a regular four-door sedan with conventional roof pillars.

But that's OK, Mini. Your sort of new look and nickname make you seem, uh, different—definitely younger, dude.

Actually, I'm probably being a bit hard on the car. Whatever the Mini may lack in honesty, it gains in access and utility without losing much of its unmistakable style.

The metallic gray model I had recently sported a nifty black top and black stripes on the hood, complemented by black 17-inch wheels and 205/45 tires.

Though it's hard to tell visually, the new Minis are slightly larger than previous models and a tad more muscular—but they apparently didn't gain any extra weight.

They still look mostly Mini. Big oval headlamps, for example, dominate the short front fenders, peering above a rounded, horizontal grille.

Front and back wheels remain on the edges of the body, maintaining the Mini's traditionally long wheelbase.

In back, the Mini "hardtop" also keeps its functional hatchback and curved rump.

Odd mix

Try as I might, though, I could never get entirely comfortable with the Mini's four doors and table-flat top. They just never really blended, in my view.

It was probably just me.

Fortunately, "S" models of the 3,000-pound sedan, er, four-door hardtop get Mini's well-developed turbocharged 2-liter four for power.

Even better, the car I had relied on a slick-shifting six-speed manual to put its 189 horsepower to the ground through the front wheels.

If you go this route, I should warn you that the clutch can be challenging. It was light but engaged abruptly up high.

Nonetheless, the engine felt smooth and fairly zingy, able to launch hard and rev quickly with decent surge.

And even with the go-fast turbocharger, the Mini is rated at 24 miles per gallon in town and 34 on the highway.

Beyond 5,000 rpm, the engine's power flattened out as it seemed to run out of breath, but the little door slammer was still good for zings to 60 mph in a quick 6.2 seconds, according to Car and Driver.

The car relishes a good curve, too, turning crisply into corners with a grin you can almost feel.

Although the body leaned slightly in the more radical stuff, the Mini kept its composure well for a fairly chunky front-driver.

It likes to fool around. But you will have to learn to live with very quick steering that is also fuzzy—particularly at slower speeds—and a fidgety suspension.

While modern Minis seem to still love hard, fast curves, their steering makes it difficult to know exactly what the front tires are doing.

In fact, between the stiff ride and thick steering, I frequently had to make slight corrections to keep the Mini in a straight line on the highway.

Nice inside

At least you get to work in a pretty nice environment. My car arrived with a light gray interior that looked much more upscale than Minis from a few years back.

As well it should, considering the car's $34,350 window sticker.

Like many Minis before it, mine had a flat old-school black plastic dashboard that rose above a large round center stack trimmed in piano black.

In late-model Minis, the new center stack replaces the giant traditional speedometer that used to dominate the middle of the dash.

The speedometer now resides in a '60s-looking canister mounted on the steering column, with the tachometer squeezed in beside it.

Let's give Mini points for simplicity. Three round knobs under the main center stack pod controlled the climate settings, while buttons and toggles beneath the knobs kept other stuff running or shut down.

One red toggle switch in that group started the car. Though the door panels were mostly black plastic, they offered swoopy shapes and slashes of light gray.

Likewise, the seats looked and felt affluent, which is a whole lot more than I can claim. Stitched in light-gray leather, they had sleek pleats and supportive bolsters.

But this is where I really wonder about the back doors of the "hardtop." They obviously make getting in easier, particularly for adults.

While I could more or less fit back there, it was tight. What's the point of doors if the back seat can barely accommodate the people crawling in?

Look, I think Mini builds too many models and ought to focus more on refining what is a really good, likable concept.

But here's how much I know: Through May, sales of 2015 Minis were up 28.2 percent.

Bigger and more always win—whatever you call them.

NUTS & BOLTS

2015 Mini Cooper S Hardtop

- Type of vehicle: Front-wheel-drive, four-door, five-passenger compact sedan
- Price as tested: $34,350
- Fuel economy: 24 miles per gallon city, 34 highway
- Weight: 2,991 pounds
- Engine: Turbocharged, direct-injected 2-liter four with 189 horsepower and 207 pound-feet of torque
- Transmission: Six-speed manual
- Performance: 0 to 60 mph in 6.2 seconds

MOTORING Q&A

Is buying a four-wheel drive vehicle worth it?

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I would like your opinion on the advantages of four-wheel-drive vs. front-wheel-drive vehicles. I loved my first front-wheel-drive vehicle, an early '80s Chevy Citation, and the traction it provided in icy conditions. I have a steep driveway and have never been unable to make it into the garage, even in terrible weather. In fact, I have never been stuck driving in snowy conditions in urban and suburban areas. Since 4WD vehicles cost more, are heavier and tire diameter is more of a problem, I don't ever plan to own one. What's your opinion?

A: The real question is this: Do you need 4WD or do you want 4WD? You've described the reality of "needing" 4WD in urban/suburban areas. Unless you're the plow truck or ambulance driver and positively have to get to work before the roads are cleared or you spend a significant amount of time driving off-road, you probably don't need 4WD.

We've had our 4WD Tahoe for 20 years and I can count the number of times I "needed" 4WD on both hands—and this in light of me having to be at the TV station at 4:30 a.m. to do morning traffic reports, no matter the weather. But I "wanted" 4WD available to deal with the rare situations when it provided a real benefit. Thus, it was worth it to me.

Yes, there's a higher purchase price and efficiency cost in the extra weight and drag of the 4WD components—lower miles per gallon. But before writing off 4WD, compare the resale value of a 4WD vehicle vs. a FWD vehicle, particularly if it's a truck or SUV.

Which is why I think the best overall choice is AWD—all-wheel drive. But that discussion is for another column.

Q: I have a brake problem on my 2004 Saab 9-3 with 2-liter turbo engine. The power assist is not working and I have to use excessive pressure on the brake pedal to stop. I've searched everywhere for info, including the Clymer shop manual. Other than identifying that the power assist is partially done by vacuum and a gear at the end of the camshaft, it was no help.

A: Much help is available on the Internet. My ALLDATA database pulled up several Saab service bulletins and even a recall dealing with this issue. The recall in 2005, which may have included your vehicle, identified potential failure of the vacuum pipe to the power brake vacuum booster.

The most likely cause for the lack of power assist is this pipe or the check valve at the booster. A more significant issue would be a problem with the camshaft-driven vacuum pump not supplying vacuum to the booster. Because the engine is turbocharged, a vacuum pump is necessary to supply adequate vacuum to assist the brakes.

Q: We have a 2000 Chrysler Town & Country with about 135,000 miles. The brake warning light will come on occasionally while driving and then go off. What should I check to solve this problem?

A: Assuming you are talking about the brake warning light on the dash, there are three things to check. First, the fluid level in the brake master cylinder. If it is low, the warning light will illuminate. Secondly, excessive brake pedal travel due to a loss of pressure in the system will trigger the light. Thirdly, a stuck parking brake mechanism can leave the warning light illuminated.

Don't take this signal lightly—it indicates a potentially serious safety issue with the brakes.

Q: My wife and I own a 2013 Chrysler 200 that we both like. It's her car and I drive it once in a while. I have one complaint. While driving at highway speeds and going over large horizontal cracks or seams in the pavement, it feels that the car slides to the side a little. It's more prominent when traversing a light curve or worse yet a sharper curve, as then the rear end almost jumps sideways.

Can tire pressure cause this? She tends to keep the tire pressures up higher in the winter months so the tire pressure sensors won't yell at her for being too low in the cold weather. Now that it's summer, I just lowered the pressure in each tire to 34 psi. They were at almost 40 psi. I haven't driven the car since so I'm not sure if the problem is solved or not. What are your thoughts?

A: Tire pressure plays more than one role in vehicle performance. The tire is part of the suspension and acts like a spring in absorbing some percentage of the bumps generated by road irregularities. The higher the tire pressure, the stiffer the spring rate. Thus, an overinflated tire may well contribute to the skipping or sliding characteristic you've described.

Best I can tell, the recommended tire pressures for this vehicle are 32 psi in all four tires. Adjust the tires to this pressure and drive the car for several days. Is the ride quality better? Since this vehicle is front-drive, you could perhaps try lowering the rear tire pressures a few pounds to "soften" the rear spring rate.

Life & Style

Jon Stewart heads into home stretch at 'Daily Show'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jon Stewart enters the home stretch of his 16 years on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" on Monday, with 12 more nights of jokes at the expense of those who make and report the news before he signs off for good on Aug. 6.

Stewart's exit, the latest in a year of upheaval in late-night television, will be felt most acutely over the next 15 months as the U.S. approaches its first presidential election since 1996 without his comic take.

Attesting to Stewart's cultural import, President Barack Obama is booked for his seventh appearance on the show Tuesday.

Stewart, who started on "The Daily Show" in 1999, cited restlessness in announcing his exit last February. During a recent appearance on "The Daily Show," film director Judd Apatow said he sensed that feeling even before the announcement when he interviewed Stewart by phone for a just-released book.

"I think it was that one moment when you were saying, `Oh, God, I'm out of gas. What am I going to do?'" Apatow said to Stewart's laughter.

When Seth MacFarlane mentioned that he was feeling burned out, Stewart told him, "Let me tell you my solution. Quit."

An audience member shouted out, "We love you!"

"That's not love," Stewart shot back. Love is taking soup to a sick friend. "Love is not saying, `do more shows! Entertain me!'" he said.

Adam Lowitt, an executive producer on "The Daily Show," said he's had no sense his boss is second-guessing his decision.

AP

In this July 15, 2014 file photo, former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton reacts to host Jon Stewart during a taping of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," in New York.

"Even around the office, he seems to be relishing the place that he's in right now and taking in every aspect of the show and the people that work there," Lowitt said. "He's aware that time is winding down. Regret is not there."

Still, as Stewart stifled laughter before delivering a comic lecture directed at New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on the show last month, he couldn't resist the aside, "I'm going to miss this a little bit."

Stewart was animated, almost gleeful, on the day Donald Trump announced his candidacy for president. The jokes poured out—sometimes a facial expression or exaggerated New Yawk accent was all that was needed—as Stewart said Trump was putting him in a comedy hospice with injections of straight morphine.

Something about Trump is irresistible, even for retired comics. David Letterman resurfaced at a Steve Martin appearance in Texas earlier this month just to deliver a Top Ten list about Trump.

The day of Trump's announcement was one of those special times in the office that Lowitt said he'll always remember.

"Every moment was just better than the rest," he said. "Everyone was just beaming with excitement. That is something that I will definitely miss—knowing that this material is out there and the greatest performer is about to deliver on that in six hours."

Stewart's value was evident for a different reason after the Charlestown church massacre. He opened the show by admitting he had no jokes, then delivered an impassioned monologue on his frustration about the lack of will in combatting mass shootings. With Letterman's retirement, Stewart was the only person in late-night TV with the gravitas to pull that off.

As the days wind down for Stewart, the show has done a handful of self-deprecatory clip packages—Stewart breaking into song, complaining about his health or admitting to interview subjects that he hadn't read the book or seen the movie the guest was there to promote.

"I read the back cover," he explained meekly to author David Halberstam.

Letterman's recent leave-taking was a several-week build-up of visits from old friends leading to a pitch-perfect goodbye. The final episode of "The Colbert Report" on Comedy Central was predictably surreal and smart, although it could have used an editor.

Stewart is conscious of making the final few weeks relatively low-key, Lowitt said. His last show is in August, prime vacation time. "What he's always said is, `We're just going to do the show that we do. We're not going to do something crazy or reinvent it,'" he said. Actors Paul Rudd and Jake Gyllenhaal and author Ta-Nehisi Coates are guests this week.

Stewart, who took the summer off two years ago to make a movie, hasn't said what he's doing next. Lowitt is staying on to work for Stewart's "Daily Show" successor, South African comedian Trevor Noah, who is essentially keeping the same staff when he starts on Sept. 28.

It ensures the sensibility of "The Daily Show" will remain, even if Stewart isn't.

Ain't misbehavin'? Broadway audience faux pas get spotlight

NEW YORK (AP)—Come on along and listen to the lullaby of Broadway: Marimba ringtones! Rat-a-tat texting! The shaming "shhhhh!"

Years of tension over audience behavior hit a dramatic climax this month, when a teenager clambered onto a stage to try to recharge his phone and veteran star Patti LuPone whisked a phone away from a texting spectator, hours after performing a matinee punctuated by incoming calls. LuPone says she's even considering quitting stage work because of the electronic onslaught.

As Broadway faces off against pocket-size sound-and-light shows, performers and some patrons say a hyper-connected culture are shredding the immersive experience of live theater.

"I've just spent pretty close to a day's salary on theater tickets—I don't want to be distracted by people turning on their phone to check the time or text," Broadway fan Robin Satty of Piscataway, New Jersey, said this past week as she went to see the best-play Tony winner "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time."

Still, some theater insiders say it's time to educate, rather than scold, an increasingly connected audience that may not be steeped in theater etiquette. Some even are experimenting with embracing patrons' digital habits, to a point.

AP

In this May 12, 2012, file photo, a man takes a photo in front of the statue of theatrical legend George M. Cohan in the heart of New York's theater district.

"We have to be very careful that we let people know what's appropriate without pushing them away," said Broadway producer Ken Davenport, who allowed some "tweet seats" in back rows during a performance of "Godspell" a few years ago.

Distractions in Broadway's storied houses are as old as candy wrappers and coughs, and habitues have complained about declining audience decorum since T-shirts started rubbing elbows with sport coats. But smartphones have proved especially nettlesome, with their combination of sounds, cameras and glowing screens.

"If you're onstage, you notice every single person who's texting," said actor Will Swenson, whose Broadway credits include starring roles in "Les Miserables" and "Hair."

"The second that a light pops on in the audience, it's impossible to not say, `Oh, yeah, I'm in a theater, and someone is out there not paying attention to my best efforts to tell a story,'" said Swenson, who recalls grabbing a video-shooting patron's phone during "Hair."

Other stars, from Matthew Broderick to Frances McDormand, have briefly stopped shows in response to spectators talking on phones and shooting video. But usually, actors just forge ahead.

New York City largely outlawed cellphone use in theater audiences in 2003, but officials couldn't immediately say whether anyone has been fined. Theaters routinely advise patrons of prohibitions on taking photos or videos and try various tactics to urge them to silence phones. In many theaters, cell reception is spotty at best—although blocking cellphone signals is illegal for consumer purposes.

Still, accounts of boorishness on Broadway abound: patrons taking calls during shows and squabbling with seatmates who tell them to put phones away. Members of the cast of "Hamilton" accused Madonna of texting during a performance of the show off-Broadway this spring; her publicist has denied it. Then there was the bizarre case of actor Shia LaBeouf, who pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct last year after smoking cigarettes and yelling at the performers while watching "Cabaret"; the case is on track to be dismissed if he stays out of trouble.

"Every now and then you'll get somebody who's just completely clueless about theater etiquette, or with an odd sense of entitlement, who will pick of the phone and take a call," said Cheryl Dennis, the house manager of the intimate Circle in the Square theater.

Cellphone use and loud conversation ranked high when ticket discounter Goldstar asked some of its 6 million members recently about show faux pas, though the share of people who felt texting and photo-taking were OK "if done discreetly" was in double digits.

Yes, there are no-phone zones in churches, hospitals and courthouses, but "is that the atmosphere that we want?" asked University of North Carolina drama professor Scott Walters. The Greeks, Shakespeare and Moliere wrote for loud crowds, he noted. Of course, rudeness isn't new. But as technology and social media blur lines between personal and public, "there's been an erosion in people's norms of public space," said Lewis Friedland, a University of Wisconsin sociology and communications professor.

To some extent, Broadway may be seeing the result of mixed messages. While barring cellphones during performances, theaters also exhort patrons to tweet and post about shows.

Broadway shows attracted a record 13.1 million patrons last season, up 7.3 percent from the previous season. Newcomers may not know the rules, despite advisories—the teen who recently tried to plug his phone into a prop outlet shortly before a performance of "Hand to God" said he didn't realize the stage was off limits, while also acknowledging he'd been drinking.

"We don't want people thinking, `I've got to memorize a bunch of rules,'" Goldstar CEO Jim McCarthy said. "There is one: Don't ruin it for everybody else."

Blake Shelton, Miranda Lambert divorce after 4 years

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—After years of tabloid gossip claiming marital troubles, country music's top couple Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert announced their divorce after four years of marriage.

The news was confirmed in a statement by the couple to The Associated Press, issued by their representatives Monday.

"This is not the future we envisioned," the former couple said in the statement.

"And it is with heavy hearts that we move forward separately. We are real people, with real lives, with real families, friends and colleagues. Therefore, we kindly ask for privacy and compassion concerning this very personal matter."

The two multiplatinum stars came together just as their careers were hitting their peak, but the couple had to constantly deny rumors that their superstar careers were taking a toll on their marriage. Although sometimes they joked about competing against each other for awards, publicly they were constantly championing each other's successes and there were no obvious signs of trouble when the couple appeared at the Academy of Country Music Awards together in April.

Grammy-winning native Texan Lambert, 31, is one of country's music most lauded female singers with her fiery brand of sass and sincerity on songs like "Gunpowder & Lead" and "The House That Built Me."

"Boys `Round Here" singer Shelton, with his cheeky humor and easy likability, became a ubiquitous star as he juggled his musical and television career, as a judge on "The Voice" and a co-host of the ACMs. The 39-year-old Shelton first marriage of three years ended in divorce.

"We're a really normal couple," Lambert told The Associated Press in 2010. "We like to back road and hunt and fish. When we're home, we're not in that mode. We're not in work mode, but it's so great to have success together. Our careers have both taken a really good step in a good direction at the same time. I just think we have a really good relationship. It's really strong. We're best friends, and I can't see myself with anybody else."

But tabloids hounded the couple, in particularly focusing on their personal lives and Lambert's weight.

"There are people who literally, their only job is to make other people miserable, and that's a terrible way to live your life," Lambert told The Associated Press in 2014.

AP

In this Feb. 13, 2011 file photo, Blake Shelton, left, and Miranda Lambert arrive at the 53rd annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Lawyers may try to use Bill Cosby's own words against him

By GEOFF MULVIHILL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Cosby's lurid, decade-old testimony about his philandering could do more than damage what's left of his fatherly image—it could very well be used against him in court by some of the women who accuse him of sexual assault.

Rocco Cipparone, a defense lawyer in New Jersey who is not connected to any of the legal action surrounding Cosby, said Monday that what the comedian said under oath could wind up hurting him in civil or criminal cases if judges can be persuaded to rule the testimony admissible.

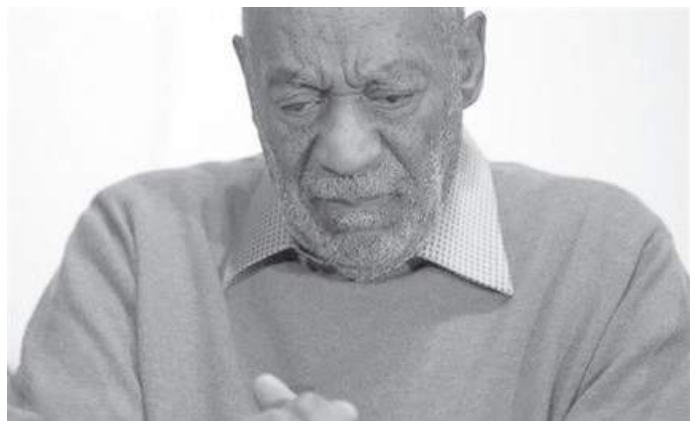
For Cosby to avoid being damaged by his own words, Cipparone said, "you'd have to navigate a virtual minefield."

Dozens of women have accused Cosby of drugging and sexually assaulting them over four decades, though few of the accusations have begun to play out in court, largely because the statute of limitations for criminal charges has run out in most instances.

Authorities have said one accusation is under criminal investigation in California, and three others are part of a defamation lawsuit against Cosby in Massachusetts by women who say they were slandered by his representatives.

Cosby has denied committing any crimes.

Earlier this month, a judge sided with The Associated Press and released small excerpts from a deposition Cosby gave in Philadelphia in 2005-06 as part of a sexual-assault lawsuit against him that was later settled on confidential terms.



AP

In this Nov. 6, 2014, file photo, entertainer Bill Cosby pauses during a news conference about the upcoming exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art in Washington.

Over the weekend, The New York Times published a more detailed account of Cosby's testimony after obtaining all 1,000 or so pages of his deposition via a court reporting service. The AP then secured the same material.

Cosby recounted some of his womanizing in sexually explicit detail and said he gave women quaaludes in order to have sex with them. He denied giving the powerful sedatives to women without their knowledge.

He specifically said that was the case back in the 1970s with Therese Serignese, one of the women now suing him in Massachusetts. A judge is weighing a request from Cosby to dismiss the case.

"I think it's a treasure trove of admissions by Mr. Cosby that self-destructs his public moralist soapbox," said Joseph Cammarata, the lawyer for Serignese and the two other plaintiffs.

Cammarata said that he expects to use Cosby's deposition in his clients' case if it goes to trial—and that it's strong evidence. "It's the equivalent of testifying in court," he said.

Celebrity lawyer Gloria Allred, who represents several woman who say Cosby assaulted them, said the testimony "demonstrates how deceptive, manipulative and disgusting that he was."

"It is no wonder that he fought to keep this deposition, which reveals his revolting predatory conduct, hidden from public view," she said, "but the truth is out now, and it will never be hidden again."

Cipparone said the women who are mentioned specifically in Cosby's testimony could use his words if they sue.

SAG gives lifetime achievement award to Carol Burnett

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Screen Actors Guild is recognizing Carol Burnett for her six decades in entertainment.

The actors' union announced Monday that Burnett will receive its 52nd Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual SAG Awards in January.

Union President Ken Howard said the 82-year-old entertainer is "a creative dynamo and a comedic genius."

Burnett

Burnett got her start on stage, where TV talent bookers spotted her. She joined the cast of "The Garry Moore Show" in 1959. She launched "The Carol Burnett Show" in 1967, which ran for 11 years and won 25 Emmy Awards.

Burnett is working on a book about the success of her show set to be published next year. Her recent TV credits include appearances on "Glee" and "Hot in Cleveland."

Santana memoir among winners of American Book Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Carlos Santana, Marlon James and Naomi Klein are among the winners of the 36th annual American Book Awards, which celebrate diversity in publishing.

Santana and co-authors Ashley Kahn and Hal Miller were cited Monday for the memoir "The Universal Tone." James won for his nearly 700-page novel "A Brief History of Seven Killings," based in part on the attempted assassination of Bob Marley. Klein won for the environmental work "This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate." Poet Anne Waldman, whose books include "The Iovis Trilogy," was honored for lifetime achievement.

More than a dozen recipients were announced for the American Book Awards, which have no individual categories. The awards are presented by the Before Columbus Foundation, a nonprofit "educational and service organization" founded in 1976 by author-playwright Ishmael Reed.

Wife learns man was seeking more than exercise at the gym

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for 10 years. We were married six months ago. Before the wedding, we had some breakups. During one of them, he dated another woman briefly. The encounter led to her becoming pregnant, and she gave birth to a boy who is now a year old. I learned about her and her pregnancy five months before our wedding, but we have been able to work through it with intense counseling.

Last week, I received a Facebook message from a woman who advised me that my husband had approached her at the gym and said he was single, so they went on a date. After our wedding he stopped seeing her, but continued contacting her. She figured something was up, and found pictures of me and my husband on Facebook. When she told him she knew he was married, he stopped calling and texting. She said she knew him for only a week and didn't have sex with him.

When I confronted him, he said he had made a "mistake." He apologized and said it wouldn't happen again. He said he no longer sees her, but how can I ever trust him again? Please tell me what to do.

THE NEW MRS. IN KANSAS

DEAR NEW MRS.: After what happened, I don't blame you for distrusting your husband. He had every intention of starting a sexual relationship with the woman at the gym, and would have if she hadn't researched him.

The man you married appears to have a serious character defect. It's up to you to decide if you are willing to tolerate another "lapse," should it occur. Some women are willing to stay married to a womanizer, but others don't want to put up with the pain. I can't decide that for you, but some sessions with a psychologist may help you make a well-thought-out decision.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a girl in my early teens. Recently I attended a family gathering at my grandparents' home. While I was upstairs alone, my 14-year-old cousin "Jared" asked to see my boobs. When I told him no, he immediately made me promise not to tell anyone. I'm afraid of Jared now and I need help. What should I do?

FREAKED OUT IN INDIANA

DEAR FREAKED OUT: Some promises are supposed to be kept. Others can be dangerous. It is important to know the difference. What you should do is tell your mother what happened. Jared's parents need to be aware so they can talk with him about appropriate behavior because his wasn't, and he could land in serious trouble if he doesn't learn about boundaries.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, my mother divorced her second husband (not my father). It was ugly. She has been down in the dumps, and I'm doing my best to console her. She wants to get rid of his last name, which is understandable, but she wants to change it to MY married last name, so "we'll all have the same family name."

I think it's kind of sweet. My husband doesn't mind. A few family members think this is crazy. What say you, Abby?

LISA IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR LISA: Although it's unusual, if you and your husband have no objection, I think the other family members should stay out of it.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

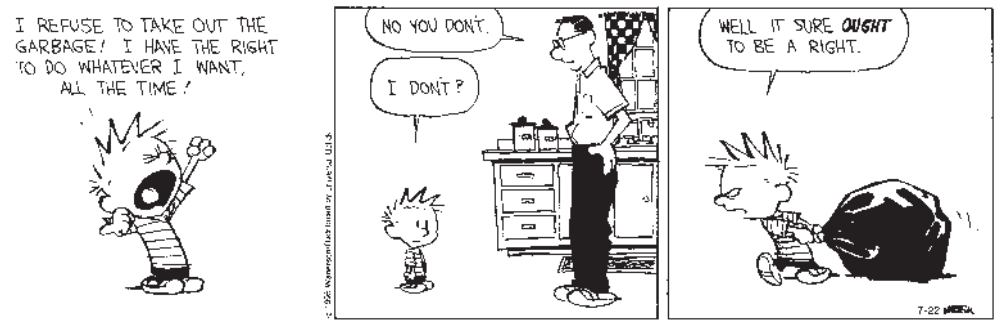
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

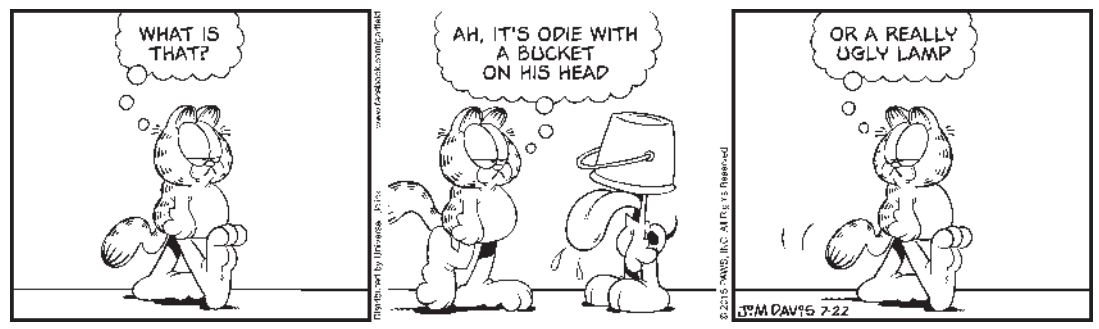
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I REFUSE TO TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE! I HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO WHATEVER I WANT, ALL THE TIME!
NO YOU DON'T.
I DON'T?
WELL IT SURE OUGHT TO BE A RIGHT.
7-22

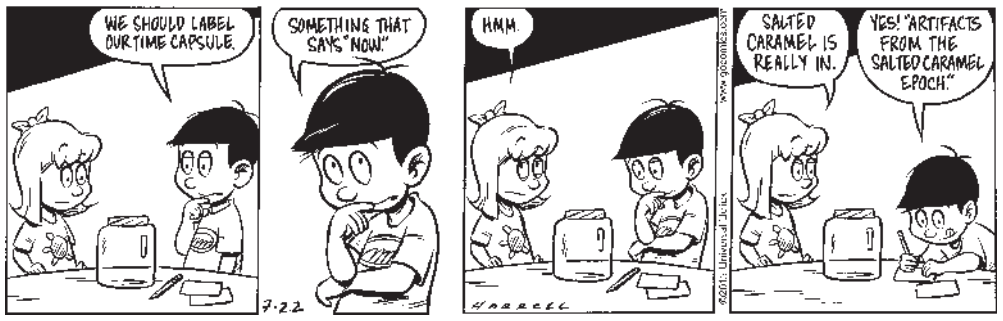
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

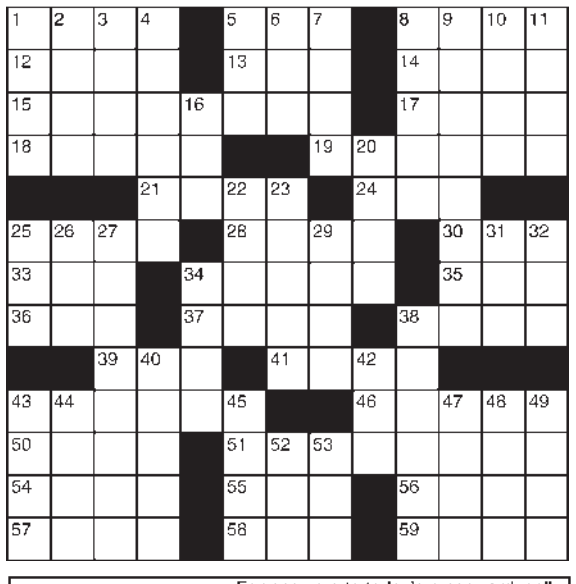
ACROSS
1 Smeltery refuse
5 Toast topper
8 Swimmers' venue
12 Session with a shrink
13 Oklahoma city
14 Emanation
15 Tornado, to an insurer
17 Celeb
18 Grave robber
19 Glorifies
21 Ringlet
24 U.K. flyers
25 Turkish —
28 Tittle
30 Martini ingredient
33 Ostrich's kin
34 Tale
35 "I'll take that as —"
36 Understand
37 Carson successor
38 Requests
39 Discoverer's cry
41 Use a teaspoon
43 Weak
46 Baby bird?
50 Cry like a baby
51 Something one excels in
54 Elliptical
55 Med. care provider
56 Western state
57 Infamous fiddler
58 Feedbag tidbit
59 Forsaken

DOWN
1 Carpet style
2 Ness or Lomond
3 Car
4 Oscar, for one
5 Binge
6 Commotion
7 Put together
8 Italian entree
9 On "E"
10 Exam format
11 Rock drummer Ulrich
16 Winter ailment
20 Picture of health?
22 Ceremony
23 Crazy people
25 Foundation
26 Parisian pal
27 Rope contest
29 Jog
31 Squid squirt
32 Ph. bk. data
34 Coin aperture
38 Crafty
40 Greeting
42 Equal (Pref.)
43 Black, to a bard
44 Most-liked, for short
45 Reverberate
47 "Beetle Bailey" dog
48 Bring up
49 Songwriter Gus
52 Ms. Thurman
53 Cauldron

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	G	E	D	■	A	C	E	■	M	A	U	L
C	O	L	A	■	C	O	X	■	A	B	L	Y
T	O	M	M	Y	R	O	T	■	R	E	N	O
■	■	■	S	U	F	■	R	A	T	T	A	N
C	A	R	O	M	■	B	E	V	Y	■	■	■
O	M	E	N	■	T	O	M	O	R	R	O	W
A	M	A	■	S	H	R	E	W	■	U	S	E
T	O	M	A	T	O	E	S	■	D	E	L	E
■	■	■	N	E	R	D	■	A	E	S	O	P
D	I	S	O	W	N	■	B	L	I	■	■	■
A	V	T	I	■	T	O	M	B	A	U	G	H
S	C	A	N	■	O	H	O	■	C	A	A	H
H	A	R	T	■	N	B	C	■	H	I	S	S

Yesterday's answer 7-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Selena Gomez, 23; Rufus Wainwright, 42; David Spade, 51; Willem Dafoe, 60.

Happy Birthday: Keep a stiff upper lip regardless of what others do or say. Distance yourself from anyone who is critical, pushy or unpredictable. Search for the time and space to enjoy peace and quiet. Don't take on the weight of the world when all that's required of you is to be responsible for your future. Back away from discord. Your numbers are 6, 10, 18, 27, 30, 39, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let anyone talk you into something you don't want to do. Put more into a relationship that means a lot to you. It's better to get along than to argue and have regrets. Keep an eye on your wallet. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The more determination you show, the better off you will be. Don't let anyone treat you like a pushover or you will be taken advantage of. Attend events that are within your budget and that offer the opportunity to collaborate with others. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick close to home and direct your energy toward making changes to your personal space and surroundings. A residential move, renovation or just making a comfortable space to explore new hobbies will suffice. Leave time for love and romance. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do whatever you can to put your personal creative spin on the job you are given. Your intuition will bring all sorts of comments that will spark your imagination, lead to worthwhile alterations and give you a chance to excel. ✪✪

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't get involved in gossip. Be the one who is talked about rather than the one spreading rumors. Try something new and blaze new trails, but most of all, live in the moment and have a little fun. Be proud of who you are. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your emotions out of the workplace. It's important that you do your job to the best of your ability and keep moving. Any sign of weakness could cost you financially. Push to get ahead and don't look back. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your tendency to procrastinate will be magnified. If you are confused, you are best to back away altogether rather than hesitate about what to do. If you can't make up your mind, step aside. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Sign up for an interesting course or go on a business trip. Your communication skills are on the rise, and your ability to give a unique interpretation of whatever situation you face will bring you recognition and rewards.✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a close look at contracts and other papers that may need to be updated or reviewed. Don't let your emotions lead you down the wrong path. Separate business from pleasure and you will avoid a misunderstanding. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Partnerships will be uncertain if you can't come to terms with what you want and are willing to offer. Equality will be the most important factor no matter what you are trying to negotiate. Play fair and demand the same in return. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't give up or give in when you should just be making changes that are more conducive to getting what you want. The improvements you make to your income look promising and will buy you the freedom you want to explore new options. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Consider an attractive offer. It is likely better than you first anticipated, and with a little tweaking, you should be able to get what you want. Love is highlighted, and a celebration will bring you closer to someone special.✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, sensitive and adaptable. You are charming and persuasive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		4	3					
	3		7					
6				5				1
4	2	6			7	9	8	
		7						6
		3						2
		1	4	9	8	5	2	3
		9		6		8		4
		8		7		6		9

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	8	9	6	4	1	7	3	2
3	6	7	2	8	5	9	1	4
2	4	1	3	7	9	5	8	6
9	2	4	1	3	7	8	6	5
8	7	3	5	6	4	1	2	9
6	1	5	8	9	2	3	4	7
4	5	8	7	2	3	6	9	1
7	3	2	9	1	6	4	5	8
1	9	6	4	5	8	2	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PROMOTING A NEW PRODUCT **Solution: 9 letters**

T	R	O	F	F	E	R	S	D	R	A	W	E	R	T
N	E	E	S	I	T	R	E	V	D	A	D	B	A	M
U	S	S	S	Y	O	U	T	U	B	E	D	R	B	A
O	E	S	T	P	D	S	D	R	A	C	G	I	R	R
C	A	L	U	I	U	E	F	L	Y	E	R	G	O	K
S	R	O	L	N	M	P	S	E	T	E	S	H	C	S
I	C	G	H	A	O	O	O	I	X	T	E	T	H	R
D	H	A	A	T	U	B	N	P	G	C	L	A	U	E
B	A	N	N	E	R	S	O	I	N	N	P	G	R	P
F	E	E	D	A	I	G	(I)	E	A	U	M	L	E	A
R	V	M	O	M	O	(D)	I	V	B	L	A	I	S	P
E	I	E	U	L	(E)	D	A	L	L	E	S	N	A	S
E	G	D	T	(A)	U	L	I	N	C	O	M	E	L	W
N	G	I	S	A	U	C	S	I	G	N	A	G	E	E
E	T	A	B	E	R	A	T	T	E	N	T	I	O	N

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Yesterday's Answer: Oniomania

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Cook: At least 3 years' professional cooking experience required. Email resume to o2scuba@hanmisaipan.com.

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1 Senior Manager (Dispatch/Customer Service): minimum 10 years' experience of airline operations, dispatch and customer service required. Must have knowledge of aircraft weight and balance, and handling of dangerous goods. Korean language proficiency required.

1 Manager (Operations): Minimum 10 years of experience of airline operations, reservation and ticketing control required. Must have knowledge of airfare construction, GDS and SAP for airlines. Korean language for proficiency required. Email resume to asiana@hanmisaipan.com.

Advance Carrier Inc.

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(1)Mason

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Advance Carrier Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) General Maintenance
-must have 5 years experience.

Please send resume to PO Box 502670
Koblerville, Saipan MP, 96950
E-mail:hectorsablan@yahoo.com

Pacific Corporation SPN Auto Center
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- **Painter** – with 5 years' work-related experience
- **Office Clerk** – with 3 years work-related experience

Ability to speak and write in English and Chinese preferred. Starting salary is $6.05/hour for all positions.

Interested applicants, please send resume to mao.autoshop@gmail.com or to P.O. Box 504991, Saipan MP 96950. For more information, please call (670) 285-0009

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Language skill
is required

Contact 322-1100
or Email
kingfisher@saipan.com

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DAY & NIGHT

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Joeten Motors Company Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

Ace Hardware CNMI Inc.

is currently seeking for

(1) Maintenance Technician

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Joeten Development dba Joeten Superstore

is currently seeking for

(1) Commercial Cleaner

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Sunset View Terraces
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Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **$700**/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft
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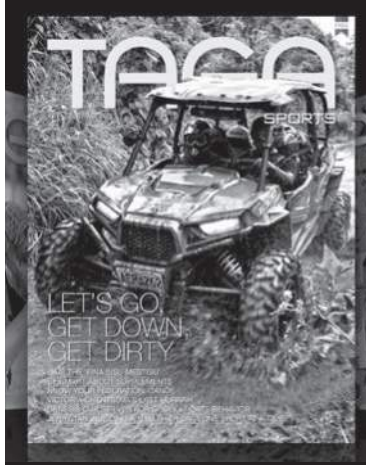
Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!



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Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Maintenance – At least a High School Graduate with a valid driver's license. Ability to efficiently use various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral and written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.

(1) Auto Mechanic – Must have at least 2 years work related experience. Excellent diagnostic/repair skills of vehicle systems. High self-motivation.

(4) Trash Collector – At least a High School Graduate with a valid driver's license.
Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

(2) Househelper – Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese and Thai cuisines is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and babysitting. With a valid driver's license.

(1) Security Guard – Wide security experience in access systems, patrolling, investigative procedures, incident report writing, and customer service. At least two years' experience. Willing to work flexible time.

(1) Garbage Collector Supervisor – Experienced in supervising and coordinating activities of workers engaged in collecting garbage and other refuse and transporting to disposal plants or areas. With valid driving license. Hardworking and trustworthy. Willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc. • Tel: (670) 235-7011

Job Vacancy Announcement

(2) Accounting Clerk – At least 2 years' experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as, MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.

(1) Barber – One to Two years' experience as a Barber. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors & Hair High-lights.

(1) Electrician – At least 2 years' experience. Proficient on layout & installation of electrical wiring, machinery and other equipment.

(1) Sewing Machine Operator – High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

(1) Inventory Clerk – High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

(1) Store Keeper – At least a High School Graduate and with 2 years' experience. Trustworthy and willing to work flexible time.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp. • Tel: 235-7270

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Accounting Clerk - At least 2 years' experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as, MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.

(1) Maintenance - At least a high school graduate with valid driver's license. Ability to efficiently use various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral and written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.

(1) Graphic Artist - Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 5 years' experience as a Graphic Artist. Proficient in Illustrator/Photoshop CS5.

(4) Screen Printer - At least 2 years' experience. Knowledgeable in screen printing equipment & machines. Able to work flexible hours.

(1) Multi-Task Graphic Designer/Screen Printer Operator - Must have Graphic Design Software skills and screen printing experience. Flexibility to work in various functions and to multi-task effectively.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC. • Tel: 235-1680

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One (1) Sales Manager
Minimum qualifications: Two year vocational degree (may be foreign equivalent); two years experience in sales and marketing, and able to read, write and speak Japanese sufficiently to negotiate contracts and communicate with Japanese speaking customers.
Duties: Work with corporate officers in planning, formulating and establishing a business plan and sales strategy to attain company's sales goals and objectives. Manage and direct activities of sales personnel and ensure that company's sales techniques and price guidelines are being followed. Establish and maintain business relationships with customers and negotiate sales contracts. Resolve any customer concerns or complaints regarding sales and service. Maintain records of all sales activities; monitor customer preferences to determine focus of sales efforts; and analyze pricing points and volume in order to make necessary modifications in sales strategy to improve wholesale sales and keep the company competitive. Plan and direct promotional activities and opportunities for expansion of company's product lines and market areas.

Two (2) Sales and Marketing Representative
Minimum qualifications: Associate's degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent) and two years experience in job offered, as a sales representative or marketing representative.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective customers to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders, and collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers. Assists Sales Manager in identifying prospective customers, monitoring market conditions and monitoring competitors' products and prices.

Two (2) Sales Representative
Minimum qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).
Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

One (1) Computer Programmer
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in computer programming or two-year course in computer programming (may be foreign educational equivalent) and two years experience as a computer programmer.
Duties: Design, update, integrate, implement, and operate computer programs and software packages for sales, accounting, inventory marketing and other management information. Maintain, set-up and operate computer system. Correct errors by making appropriate changes and rechecking the program to ensure that the desired results are produced. Perform systems analysis and programming tasks to ensure efficient use of computer programs and systems. Consult with management regarding problems and suggested changes to computer programs.

One (1) Graphic Artist
Minimum qualifications: Four years experience as a graphic artist for wholesale company with a minimum of 550 sales items.
Duties: Designs and creates visual products to meet company's promotional needs, including designing and creating promotional displays and marketing brochures, signs and signage systems, packaging, menus, and other visual products. Formulates visual marketing campaign and overall design concepts for company to reach target markets. Applies critical thinking and problem solving analysis to various design concepts and approaches that can be utilized to attain the desired effect on the target market. Creates innovative design solutions utilizing knowledge of graphic design theory and methodologies in conjunction with current cultural trends, market demographics, cultural preferences, and seasonal shifts to achieve optimum market response. Produces and coordinates the execution of mock-up and final graphic design and artwork for the visual products.

One (1) Building Maintenance Repairer
Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as building maintenance repairer.
Duties: Repairs and maintains the building structures and equipment of the company's commercial and industrial premises, including such duties as pipe fitting, insulating, welding, machining, carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings. Performs routine preventive maintenance to ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, building systems operate efficiently, or the physical condition of buildings does not deteriorate. Inspects, operates, or tests machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Assembles, installs, or repairs wiring, electrical or electronic components, pipe systems, plumbing, machinery, or equipment. Repairs or replaces defective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools, and reassembles equipment. Records type and cost of maintenance or repair work.

One (1) Building Custodian
Minimum qualifications: Three months experience as building custodian or maintenance worker.
Duties: Keeps buildings and business premises in clean and orderly condition. Performs cleaning duties, such as cleaning floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish from inside and outside of business premises. Performs routine maintenance activities and notifies management of need for repairs. Requisition supplies or equipment needed for cleaning and maintenance duties.

One (1) Automotive Mechanic
Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as an automotive mechanic.
Duties: Repairs automobiles, trucks, vans, and other vehicles. Operates and inspects vehicles to analyze and diagnose malfunctions and required repairs. Tears down, repairs, and rebuilds faulty assemblies such as power systems, steering systems, and linkages. Repairs, relines, replaces, and adjusts brakes. Repairs and services air conditioning, heating, engine-cooling, and electrical systems. Tears down, repairs, rebuilds, or replaces worn or defective parts; reassembles and adjusts repaired equipment and systems; and tests repaired equipment and systems to ensure operating efficiency. Repairs or replaces parts such as pistons, rods, gears, valves, and bearings. Rewires ignition systems, lights, and instrument panels. Repairs manual and automatic transmissions. Installs and repairs accessories such as radios, heaters, mirrors, and windshield wipers. Repairs or replaces shock absorbers. Replaces and adjusts headlights. Overhauls or replaces carburetors, blowers, generators, distributors, starters, and pumps. Repairs radiator leaks. Aligns vehicles' front ends. Rebuilds parts such as crankshafts and cylinder blocks. Repairs damaged automobile bodies. Performs routine and scheduled maintenance services such as oil changes, lubrications, and tune-ups. Performs other related duties.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to wstcospn@pticom.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

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• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in classified section

FIFA election set next year; Blatter defies calls to go now

ZURICH (AP)—Sepp Blatter had a good day at the office on Monday, even if a prankster tried to spoil it by showering the FIFA president with fake dollar bills at a news conference.

Nothing could spoil Blatter's day after he outwitted some of his FIFA opponents to earn precious extra time as their president and enjoy more such days in 2016.

Mastering FIFA politics yet again, amid calls to step down immediately, Blatter is set to stay atop world soccer for seven more months after FIFA agreed Monday on a Feb. 26 election to replace him.

Blatter was in such a good and defiant mood that he quickly shrugged off a chaotic start to his first major public appearance since a stunning resignation statement last month.

A British comedian who gatecrashed the news conference at FIFA's headquarters threw the fake bills in the air after making a spoof statement about supporting North Korea to host the 2026 World Cup.

The image of Blatter cowering under a spray of money was powerful amid ongoing American and Swiss federal investigations of FIFA corruption, yet he regained his poise.

"I just called my late mother," he quipped on returning to the room minutes later, "and she said, `Don't worry, it's just a lack of education.'"

Still, it made for an uneasy start with international networks and FIFA's own YouTube channel broadcasting the news conference live.

"Where is my security?" Blatter had shouted.

The interruption provided an awkward reminder of a far more serious incident for FIFA in May, when the arrest of soccer and sports marketing officials plunged the game's ruling body into its deepest crisis.

AP

FIFA president Sepp Blatter is photographed while banknotes thrown by British comedian Simon Brodkin hurtle through the air during a press conference following the extraordinary FIFA Executive Committee at the headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, Monday, July 20, 2015.

Jolted by the dual criminal investigations into bribery and money laundering, Blatter announced four days after being elected for a fifth term that he would leave FIFA.

"It was not only the pressure of any authorities ... it was also the pressure of political interference and also the pressure of you, media," said Blatter, who is a target of the U.S. investigation. "I had to do something very special and I did it. In footballing terms, I kicked the ball out of the field to stop something."

FIFA's executive committee decided the election date and Blatter ended weeks of uncertainty by insisting he would not perform one of his renowned about-turns by in fact being a candidate.

"On the 26th of February FIFA will have a new president," Blatter said. "I cannot be the new president because I am the old president."

The 79-year-old Blatter, who first joined FIFA 40 years ago, has held onto the most powerful job in world soccer since 1998.

Prince Ali bin al-Hussein, who lost to Blatter in May, had told The Associated Press earlier Monday: "President Blatter's resignation cannot be dragged out any longer. He must leave now."

But while Blatter said he felt "regret" about the crises, he insisted he would not be "abandoning" the presidency until a successor is elected by the 209 member associations.

The Feb. 26 date was a political victory for Blatter over European governing body UEFA and its supporters in other continents, who wanted a December ballot and thought they had a compromise agreement on Sunday for Jan. 15.

Instead, Blatter and senior vice president Issa Hayatou held sway with a late tactic. They cited not clashing with the second-tier African Nations Championship—a tournament for little-known home-based players—hosted in Rwanda from Jan. 16 to Feb. 7.

Late-February has personal significance to Blatter. It will mark exactly 40 years since Blatter's first major duty for FIFA—a development conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, that is featured in scenes from the much-derided $27 million movie flop `United Passions.'

Earlier Monday, UEFA President Michel Platini had seemed ready to launch his election campaign as front-runner when his officials confirmed he has support to run from four of the six FIFA continents.

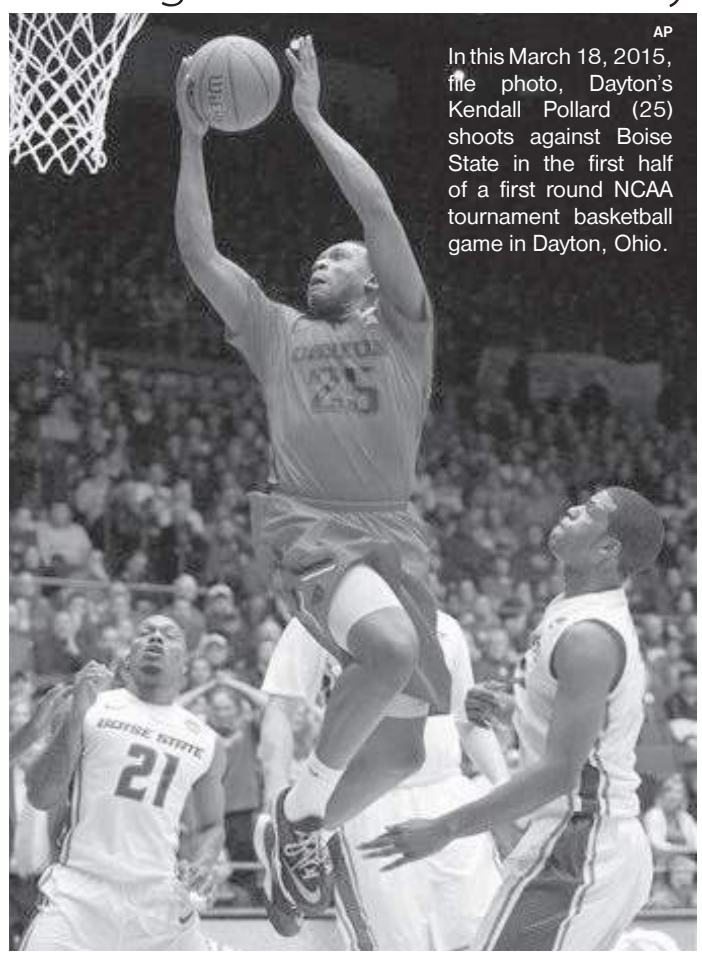
Instead, there is an Oct. 26 deadline for would-be candidates to gain five nominations from FIFA's 209 member associations.

Prince Ali did not commit to a second campaign Monday, and only former Brazil great Zico and Liberia football federation president Musa Bility have expressed their intention to stand.

"He loves the fact that UEFA is associated with football on a daily basis and the thousands of matches we organize," Platini's spokesman, Pedro Pinto, said outside FIFA headquarters. "FIFA is a more political organization and he is a man of football. He's not a man of politics."

In a statement Platini welcomed the creation of a FIFA reforms task force—a second one after a 2012-13 version—which will reconsider introducing term limits, integrity checks for senior officials and pay details.

NCAA tweaks March Madness seeding rules for more flexibility



AP

In this March 18, 2015, file photo, Dayton's Kendall Pollard (25) shoots against Boise State in the first half of a first round NCAA tournament basketball game in Dayton, Ohio.

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—The committee that puts together the field of 68 for the NCAA men's basketball tournament will have more flexibility to set the First Four and give No. 2 seeds more favorable matchups.

The NCAA announced Monday that the Division I selection committee will now be allowed to slide every team up or down the seed list, including the last four at-large teams selected. Until now, the last four teams voted into the tournament field were locked into the First Four, the eight-team playoff that serves as the tournament's first round.

Going forward, the last four at-large teams on the overall seed list—after the seeds have been tweaked by a process known as scrubbing—will play in the First Four.

"It's a small, yet significant, alteration to the language outlining our seeding process," said Oklahoma athletic director Joe Castiglione, the chairman of the Division I men's basketball committee. "Making this change gives the committee the opportunity to properly seed every team, whereas previous procedures did not permit appropriate scrubbing of the last four at-large teams."

Selecting teams usually involves looking at teams in groups of eight, Castiglione said. Scrubbing is comparing two teams against one another, from their records against each other and common opponents to their wins against tournament teams.

"This tweak provides us with the opportunity to scrub teams even more thoroughly," he said.

Last season, the seeding process placed Dayton into the First Four, playing at home. UCLA, another team that was among the last to get into the field, was placed in the main bracket. The old procedures did not allow the committee to switch Dayton and UCLA.

The First Four started in 2011 when the field expanded to 68 teams. The last four at-large teams selected to the field are paired off in two games and the last four teams on the overall seed list are matched in two other games played on Tuesday and Wednesday at Dayton's home arena. A First Four participant has reached the round of 32 each season since, including Dayton last season.

Pistons welcome Reggie Jackson back with new contract

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP)—Less than a month ago, Stan Van Gundy said bringing back point guard Reggie Jackson was his top offseason priority.

So it made sense that, with a long-term deal done, the Detroit Pistons introduced Jackson in a formal news conference in the west atrium of the Palace—where the team holds many of its biggest announcements these days.

"It was a big day for us last year when we made the trade for Reggie, but now to get him locked up for the long term is even bigger for us," said Van Gundy, Detroit's coach and team president. "We look at Reggie as a big part of our foundation that we're trying to build here."

Jackson was a restricted free agent, and this deal—worth a reported $80 million over five years—keeps him with Detroit after the Pistons traded for him in the middle of last season. The agreement came together a while ago—Van Gundy had talked about Jackson's return after a news conference about a different topic over a week ago—but the team formally announced the signing Monday. For a franchise that has struggled to land top free agents lately, the trade for Jackson should play a big role in shaping the team's future.

AP

Pistons head coach Stan Van Gundy, left, and guard Reggie Jackson pose for a photo after a news conference Monday, July 20, 2015, in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Jackson averaged 14.5 points per game last season, including 17.6 in 27 games after he was traded from Oklahoma City to the Pistons and became a full-time starter. The 25-year-old guard will be asked to team up with promising big man Andre Drummond and help Detroit try to return to the postseason, where the Pistons haven't been since 2009.

"I'm definitely going to be more of a vocal leader, especially being here Day 1 in camp," Jackson said.

He said Van Gundy stressed the importance of leadership from the beginning.

"That's the first thing he actually talked to me about when I first got here," Jackson said. "I still know I have to lead by example, and I have to be the first guy in and the last one out."

Jackson was acquired in February, not long after Detroit point guard Brandon Jennings went down with a major Achilles' tendon injury. Jennings was playing well before his injury, but the Pistons clearly viewed Jackson as more than a short-term replacement.

"If you look, over the course of the 27 games—so a third of the season—in comparing to the other point guards in the league, even if you just do it, looking at his numbers, (Jackson) was one of the top ten point guards in the league over that time," Van Gundy said.

Van Gundy said Jennings' recovery is progressing, but it's still hard to say when he'll be back to full strength.

Pujols moves up HR leaderboard after 3-homer day

Los Angeles Angels first baseman Albert Pujols is having one hell of a comeback season. He proved that again Monday, leading his team to victory in both games against the Boston Red Sox.

Pujols hasn't been bad since joining the Angels, but his numbers have declined in recent years. In that sense, 2015 has been a pleasant surprise. Following Monday's games, he's already surpassed last season's home run total.

Between the two contests, Pujols smashed three dingers. He hit one during Game 1 against Boston, and added two more in Game 2. With the performance, Pujols tied, and then passed Mike Schmidt on the all-time home run list. Pujols is now in sole possession of 15th all-time on that list.

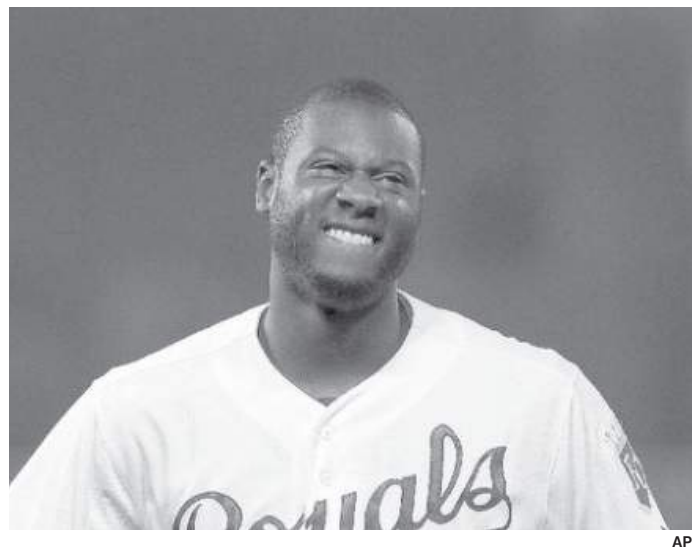
His 29 home runs also gives him the league-lead in the category. He's trailed by teammate Mike Trout, who also went yard Monday, giving him 28 home runs on the year.

If Pujols can keep it up, he has a chance to do something he's never done before in his career.

Behind his strong play, the Angels have now won five straight games. The team holds a two game lead on the Astros in the American League West.

AP

Kansas City Royals' Lorenzo Cain reacts after an out to end the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates Monday, July 20, 2015, in Kansas City, Mo.



AP

Cincinnati Reds Jay Bruce (32) is congratulated by teammate Todd Frazier (21) following a two-run homer of Chicago Cubs relief pitcher Justin Grimm (52) during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 20, 2015, in Cincinnati.

Rockies 8, Rangers 7

Colorado Rockies first baseman Ben Paulsen was nearly the goat, but wound up playing the hero against the Texas Rangers. Paulsen picked up the walk-off hit during the club's 8-7 victory.

Earlier in the contest, Paulsen made a huge mistake. With the Rockies up by four, and two men on, Prince Fielder grounded out to Paulsen at first. Paulsen tagged the base, and started running toward the dugout, believing that was the final out of the inning.

He was wrong. Fielder's groundout was only the second out of the inning. One run scored from third due to the groundout, but another came in from second due to Paulsen's gaffe. That closed the gap to 7-5.

The Rockies improved to 40-51 with the win.

Padres 4, Giants 2

Unless the San Diego Padres can go on a winning streak, they are going to be looked at as sellers at the deadline. The team is on their way to changing their fortunes, however, winning their fifth straight contest against the San Francisco Giants.

With the win, the Padres improved to 44-49 on the year. They still trail the Los Angeles Dodgers by 8.5 games in the National League West. The team is only six games out of a wild card spot, and could opt to buy at the deadline if they can extend this streak a bit longer.

Matt Kemp was able to play the hero during the contest, hitting a two-run homer in the third inning. After a slow start, Kemp has started to come around in July. The outfielder is hitting .298, .377, .574 since the beginning of the month. That's a small sample, but Kemp also went on a huge second half run last season.

The 30-year-old Kemp is hitting .257, .301, .408 over 386 plate appearances this year.

Nationals 7, Mets 2

New York Mets starter Matt Harvey has been one of the bright spots for the club this season. But he had trouble against the Washington Nationals. Harvey struggled against Washington during the team's 7-2 loss.

Harvey's main issue was his lack of control. He walked four batters during the contest. Walks have actually been a big problem for Harvey lately. In his last three starts, he's walked 13 batters.

Harvey managed to go seven innings Monday despite the lack of control, but his overall numbers weren't great. He allowed five runs, four earned, on five hits. Harvey struck out three during the start.

Following the rocky start, the right-hander has a 3.19 ERA on the year. The Mets sit at 48-45 after the loss.

Pirates 10, Royals 7

Travis Ishikawa is having a rough season. On this night, he enjoyed one of the best games of his career.

Ishikawa had three extra-base hits and drove in four runs as the Pittsburgh Pirates outslugged the Kansas City Royals.

Ishikawa, who was 1 for 13 with one RBI in nine games since the Pirates claimed him on waivers July 5, hit a two-run double in a four-run second that came within inches of going out. He homered in the fifth with Jung Ho Kang aboard. And in the eighth inning, Ishikawa's double sparked a two-run rally.

Ishikawa was on the disabled list this year with a lower back injury. He played 37 games in the minors, was sent outright to Triple-A Sacramento by the San Francisco Giants and designated for assignment before the Pirates picked him up.

A.J. Burnett (8-3) won despite giving up a season-high five earned runs and 11 hits—including two homers - in his initial start since his first career trip to the All-Star Game. The 38-year-old right-hander pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the second. ***(Yahoo Sports)***

Report: Detriot Tigers make free agents Price, Cespedes available

The Tigers beat the Mariners on Monday night to improve to 46-46 on the year. While they are 10 games behind the Royals for first place in the American League Central, they are just four back in the Wild Card race. Still, with slugger Miguel Cabrera expected to miss at least another month with a calf strain and the starting rotation vulnerable, Tigers president and general manager Dave Dombrowski is prepared to face the upcoming July 31 non-waiver trade deadline from the unfamiliar position of a seller.

Bob Nightengale of USA Today was told by "several people inside and outside the organization familiar with their strategy" that the Tigers plan to make impending free agents David Price and Yoenis Cespedes available. Dombrowski wouldn't go quite that far when reached for comment by Nightengale, but he didn't exactly deny it either.

"At this point," Dombrowski said, "our focus is trying to win right now. We're trying to do everything we can to qualify for the playoffs. Things can turn dramatically over a 10-game period. But you have to play well, at some point, on a consistent basis.

"We're at a point where we have to do what's best in our heart for the franchise. And what's "best in our heart for the franchise" might be an infusion of young talent. Baseball America had the Tigers ranked No. 30 (as in, dead-last) in their organizational rankings over the winter. Moving Price and Cespedes, even though they would just be rentals, could get them moving in the right direction for the long-term.

Price, 29, has a 2.32 ERA and 127/26 K/BB ratio in 132 innings over 19 starts this season. He could be the most sought-after starting pitcher on the market, which is saying a lot considering that Johnny Cueto, Cole Hamels, Jeff Samardzija, and James Shields are also expected to be available.

Cespedes, 29, is batting .289/.314/.482 with 13 home runs and 52 RBI over 92 games this season. Other high-profile outfielders expected to be available for trade this month include Justin Upton, Jay Bruce, and Carlos Gomez. ***(The Associated Press)***

Women's baseball makes historic debut at Pan Am Games

TORONTO (AP)—Women's baseball made history Monday at the Pan Am Games, the first time it's been played in a large, multi-sport event.

There was no live television coverage at the debut, and perhaps only 200 fans saw the first pitch as American left hander Sarah Hudek threw a ball just off the plate to open the game against leadoff hitter Astrid Rodriguez of Venezuela.

"To be here, this is awesome. This is it," said American player Malaika Underwood. "It doesn't matter that we're not on TV. I mean the fact we are out here is the point. When we look back at this, I think we'll appreciate the magnitude."

For the record, the United States defeated Venezuela 10-6 in a regulation seven innings.

Pardon a joke the women have heard many times, but none of the players threw like a girl, and none wore a skirt, which was the uniform in the 1992 film "A League of their own," a depiction of women's professional baseball in the United States in the 1940s starring Tom Hanks, Geena Davis and Madonna.

"I'm glad we don't wear skirts," said Underwood a 34-year-old infielder and a veteran on a team ranging in age from 16 to 41. "I'm not sure I would feel comfortable playing in a skirt. Sliding, it would be tough."

AP

Pitcher Sarah Hudek, of the United States, throws during a women's baseball game against Venezuela at the Pan Am Games Monday, July 20, 2015, in Ajax, Ontario.

The field and the distances are identical in the men's and women's games. The only difference is seven innings for the women, and nine for the men.

The first three innings took more than an hour to play, so the speed also resembled some men's games.

Hudek said her father, former major-league reliever John Hudek, probably couldn't hit her heat.

"He wasn't the best hitter," she said.

In the second inning, Venezuela nearly pulled off a triple play.

The United States had runners on first and second, and American Anna Kimbrell hit a sharp hopper to third. Venezuela's Daily Gimenez touched third, got the force and second, but Kimbrell beat the relay to first by a step.

The Americans are represented by a firefighter, a nurse, two high-school students and a wide mix of players, most of whom grew up playing baseball. Some also played softball, but Underwood guessed about two-thirds played only baseball - on women's teams, or men's teams.

The United States has no professional league for women, although Japan and several other countries do.

"I just want to get women's baseball more out there and open the doors for younger women knowing they don't have to convert to softball if they don't want to," Hudek, adding the response is always the same when she says she plays baseball.

"They try to correct me. They say: `Oh, you mean softball'."

She replies: "No, baseball. I hope one day we can get to where people don't correct us."

Hudek will be a freshman this year on the men's team at Bossier Parish Community College in Louisiana.

"This is going to be a new atmosphere and it's definitely a little nerve-wracking," she said. "I'm just going to have to earn their respect."

Underwood grew up in San Diego, California, played baseball on the boys' team at La Jolla High School and earned a volleyball scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Baseball was not an option.

"Growing up a kid I definitely dreamed about being the first woman in the pro leagues," Underwood said. "I think at some point I realized that was unlikely."

Women's baseball has been in the news the last few weeks. French player Melissa Mayeux, a 16-year-old shortstop, recently became the first woman on Major League Baseball's international registration list, making her eligible to be signed by pro teams.

Spieth no loser despite coming up short

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP)—When it was over, Jordan Spieth stood off the 18th green and applauded the fans who had spent much of their day applauding him.

They came by the thousands on a wet and chilly day, lured by cheap tickets and the chance to see history. Packed into huge grandstands and jammed 10 deep against each other on the finishing fairways, they waited in the rain, urging the young American to deliver for them once again.

A 50-footer that curled from left to right before dropping gently in the hole for birdie on No. 16 set the stage. Surely there would be more magic to come and Spieth would enter the record books as the first player to win his first three majors of the year since Ben Hogan did it 62 years ago.

On the 17th tee, Spieth was thinking much the same thing. A par on the brutal Road Hole and a birdie on the short 18th would give him the British Open trophy to add to those won in the Masters and U.S. Open.

It would also put him on the brink of golf immortality, just one win from the Grand Slam no modern player has ever won.

"Par-birdie is a perfect way to finish here," Spieth said. "And that would get the job done."

The Road Hole was playing so long into the rain and wind that Spieth couldn't reach the green in two. No matter, because he plopped his pitch just 8 feet from the hole.

"If I stood on 17th tee box and you told me I had that putt for par on the hole," Spieth said later, "I would have certainly taken it."

Almost shockingly, he missed it right. The best putter in the game didn't make the one that mattered the most.

There would be no claret jug for Spieth, no Grand Slam for golf. A misplaced drive on the 18th left him a final putt from the Valley of Sin that barely missed, ending Spieth's chances of getting in what would have been a four-man playoff.

Zach Johnson would go on to win, giving the Open a fine champion. But the sense that something bigger was lost wasn't just felt by the fans who bought tickets for 10 pounds to sit in the rain on what was looking to be a magical day.

Not since Tiger Woods' chances evaporated in a rain-blown 81 in the third round at Muirfield in 2002 had a player had a shot at three straight majors. They're so hard to win that British bookies would probably make the odds long that any player will have a chance again in the next 13 years.

Spieth had said a day earlier that he would be playing to win, not to finish third. He understood the magnitude of the moment and instead of being overwhelmed by it, he choose to embrace it.

On another day, the 3-under 69 he shot might have been enough. But this was a day where Johnson shot a 66, and Marc Leishman matched him shot for shot. Louis Oosthuizen had a 69 of his own to make it a three-way playoff that Johnson would eventually win.

As it turned out, this wasn't a tournament Spieth lost. It was one that someone else won.

"I'm very pleased with the way I played," Spieth said. "I think the way that I played this week and especially today would have won the U.S. Open by more than just a shot. I didn't play as well there. It's just that's the kind of golf that was played by the field this week, it just took some special golf. Whoever comes out the champion, that's a hell of a major."

Spieth will go to the PGA Championship in Wisconsin in a few weeks, where he'll be the favorite. Golf has a new superstar in the 21-year-old, and nothing that happened in what became the longest Open championship ever changes that.

"I made a lot of the right decisions down the stretch and certainly closed plenty of tournaments out, and this just wasn't one of those," he said. "It's hard to do that every single time. I won't beat myself up too bad because I do understand that."

JOHNSON

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down the hill, Johnson peered at the line and then rolled his ball perfectly, crouching and pumping his fist once it disappeared. His caddie, Damon Green, did a chicken dance toward the cup, and the fans packed around the final hole roared. Johnson glided to the scoring tent, and eight years after he won his first major, he was the clubhouse leader waiting to see what was yet to come.

"I did all I could do," Johnson told Green.

What followed was in keeping with the theme of the week. This was a spectacle of a major, an Open full of birdies and brilliance, but also one teeming with the bizarre and unexpected.

Two legends, Tom Watson and Nick Faldo, said farewell. The 36-hole leader, Dustin Johnson, vanished in the final two rounds with a pair of 75s and finished tied for 49th. Rain and wind played havoc with the schedule over the first three days, forcing only the second Monday finish in British Open history. In between the raindrops and wind gusts, the course seemed to alternate between something akin to a beast and something more like a dart board.

Monday, naturally, brought a little bit of everything. It felt as if everyone were on the first page of the leaderboard at one point or another, as players rose, then fell, then rose, then fell again. Zach Johnson was one of eight players to hold at least a share of the lead in the final round, though once he had completed his eight-birdie, two-bogey performance, he actually trailed Leishman, an imposing Australian, by a stroke.

At that point, five players could have won: Leishman, Johnson, Spieth (who was 14 under), Jason Day (14 under) and Oosthuizen (14 under). Leishman, who made the cut by a single shot and proceeded to shoot 64 in the third round to vault into contention, was seven under on his round and 16 under for the tournament as Johnson settled in to watch.

But Leishman also had yet to navigate the difficult closing stretch of the Old Course, and a bogey on No. 16 dropped him even with Johnson. Leishman nearly holed an 80-foot birdie putt on No. 17 that would have put him back in front, but the ball just slipped by, and he parred No. 18 to shoot 64-66 in the final two rounds and finish at 15 under as well.

"To be honest," Leishman said afterward, "I've never put four really good rounds together like that."

The tension was far from over. Day and Spieth were playing together, and they came to the last hole hoping to get into the playoff, too. Spieth had bogeyed the infamous Road Hole, No. 17, and drove way left off the 18th tee. That left him at an awkward yardage, and his approach spun back into the hollow short of the green known as the Valley of Sin. His putt rolled up but was always going wide. Day, from much closer, pitched safely past the hole but then stared in disbelief as his birdie putt stopped short.

Day appeared crushed. He was hardly alone in missing out, of course. Paul Dunne, the Irish amateur who captivated the crowds Sunday by grabbing a share of the 54-hole lead, fell to a 78 on Monday and finished at six under, tied for 30th; Sergio Garcia made a run but shot 38 on the back nine after shooting 32 on the front; and Padraig Harrington got to 13 under early in his round only to make two double bogeys and slip away to seven under, tied for 20th. Adam Scott reached 15 under after six birdies on his first 10 holes, but he was five over on the last five holes and finished at 10 under.

But if anyone was going to feel as disappointed as Spieth, it was Day. He has nine top-10 finishes without a victory in 20 career major tournaments, and after watching his putt stop a few rolls from the cup, he cradled his head in his hands.

"I just really want to have that shot at immortality," Day said.

Instead it was Johnson, Leishman and, finally, Oosthuizen who had that opportunity.

Oosthuizen, a South African who won the Open here in 2010, made his own six-foot birdie putt on 18 to finish at 15 under as well. In the four-hole aggregate playoff, Leishman fell behind quickly after a drive into a divot on No. 1 led to a long approach and a three-putt bogey while Johnson and Oosthuizen birdied.

Johnson separated himself on No. 2 with another birdie putt from 20 feet, and all three players bogeyed the Road Hole. That left Johnson with a one-shot lead as they drove off No. 18, and after Leishman made a par, Johnson missed a birdie putt that would have won it. He settled for par.

As Oosthuizen stalked his own birdie putt that would have extended the playoff to sudden death, Johnson stood to the side of the green reciting a Bible verse. When Oosthuizen's putt slid past, Johnson did not move at first, his face glazed over as if he could not believe what had happened.

Moments later, in the crush of well-wishers, Spieth, 18 years younger than Johnson, told the champion that he was proud of him.

After one final pat on the shoulder, they parted. Johnson, as if in a daze, staggered toward the back of the green to prepare for the trophy ceremony. Spieth, finally beaten in a major in 2015, took one last look at the grandstand before he turned and walked toward the parking lot. ***(The New York Times)***

FIFA 16 features first women on cover

EA Sports' FIFA 16 will be the first of its franchise to feature a woman on the cover of the game and women's teams within the game.

U.S. women's national team forward Alex Morgan graced the cover, which was released Monday, alongside Leo Messi, who is widely considered the world's best male soccer player. The Morgan/Messi duo is the primary cover art for the North American version of the game, though Messi and Canadian forward Christine Sinclair, the all-time leading scorer for the Canadian national team, are featured on a version sold in Canada.

"We actually made the decision to put Alex on the cover several months ago before the Women's World Cup," David Pekush, Senior Global Product Marketing Manager for EA Sports, told Yahoo Sports. "We knew and we wanted to celebrate women's soccer. And the fact that the women won the World Cup, it's really icing on the cake for us.

"We know that in North America, in both the United States and Canada, women's soccer is a very integral part of soccer culture and it's also helping to grow the sport in North America. So we wanted to celebrate that by putting Alex on the cover."

Featuring women in the game has actually been three years in the making. According to Pekush, the first prototype in 2012 helped EA Sports identify places that needed improvement in order to make the gameplay more credible. He said it was important to make sure the female players moved like female players and that they had the right body types and hair animation. Players from both the U.S. and Canadian women's national teams visited the EA studio near Vancouver to do motion capture to help create a more authentic experience.

"We really wanted to get women right when we put them into the game for the first time," Pekush said.

The game, which will be released September 22, will allow users to choose to play as one of several different women's national teams, including the U.S., Canada, England and Germany.

Following the U.S. women's national team's World Cup victory, fans created an online petition to put the entire team on the FIFA 16 cover, but Morgan, who is one of the world's best players, definitely wasn't a bad choice.

"It is an incredible honor to be one of the first women featured on the cover of EA SPORTS FIFA," Morgan said in a press release from EA Sports. "I know people all over the world play this game and I'm really excited that FIFA 16 is putting such an important spotlight on women's soccer. And now to share the cover with today's greatest player is surreal." ***(YahooSports)***

ALL

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held a meeting last Monday night where they continue to discuss details of the weeklong games to avoid any hitches.

They will hold another coaches and officials meeting at 6pm tonight at the Ada gym conference room.

Dela Cruz said International Basketball Federation rules would be followed in the tournament.

"We're just going to discuss some of the rules, especially the FIBA rules, to the coaches and their representatives," said Dela Cruz.

The Ol'Aces will be fielding three teams in all divisions, the Sonics will be competing in the U17 and U19 age groups, while the Rollers entered five teams—two in U15, two in U17, and one in U19. The CNMI Women's National team will also join the tournament.

The Marianas Dolphins, composed mostly of Rollers players, finished second behind eventual champion Guam in the 2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 last Saturday.

WEATHER

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T. Nakamura, and Jobe Anton Reyes told the coaching staff that they had some difficulty adapting to the cold weather in last year's World Series.

"Their body is not used to the cold weather since we don't experience that here on Saipan. The cold weather affected the way they hold the ball. For me, I think it's best to be there four days before the games begin so they can get used to the cold weather," added Camacho.

"Two days is not enough for them to adjust to the weather and the time difference. Hopefully we could arrive there earlier and without delays on our flight schedule."

Overall, Camacho—along with head coach Lawrence Camacho and assistant John Manibusan—said they are satisfied on the team's performance every practice.

"We're confident with these team since they have the right attitude. Skills wise, they already have that. It all depends now on how they perform in the games at the World Series and how much they want to win," added the Senior League manager.

The team's practice is divided into field sessions (batting, pitching, fielding, defense, and offense) every Mondays and Fridays, and strength and conditioning every Wednesday.

Camacho said that they wouldn't underestimate all the other teams that they will be facing in the World Series especially a virtually unknown Europe-Africa region in their first game.

"We don't want to underestimate the other teams. I've already learned my lesson where I took a team lightly and I lost. I always try to remember that even though a team has never won a game, they can still beat you anytime."

John Richard Paul Atalig Jr., Anthony Joseph Agulto, Ethan Franklin Babauta, Joaquin Jose Chong, Kekuni Yamaduke Kaainoa, Franklin Jay Lizama, Henry Jesus Lizama, Aurel Joe Mendiola, Brandon Win Pua, Lorenzo Lee Sebaklim, Robin Virgil Secharmidal, and Roke T. Tenorio are the other members of the team.

2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 Finals

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ

Guam's Tony Hseih, center, tries to go for a layup against the Marianas Dolphins' Ezekiel Quiroz, from left, Matthew Mamaril, and Jhon Mendoza in last Saturday's finals in the 2015 Micronesian Basketball Tournament U15 finals at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Guam's Tony Hseih, left challenges the defense of the Marianas Dolphins' Jude Tengco.

Guam's Holden Barcinas, center, goes hard to the basket against the double team defense of the Marianas Dolphins' Dalton Dancoe, partly hidden left, and Angelo Factor.

The Marianas Dolphins' Dalton Dancoe, from left, Angelo Factor, and Aaron Ogumoro try to stop Guam's Cloyd Rosas, center.

Guam's Eduardo Calvo goes to the baseline against Jun Alipio of the Marianas Dolphins.

Guam's Michael Min, center, aims to pass the ball to teammate Holden Barcinas, who is being guarded by the Marianas Dolphins' Dalton Dancoe.

Guam's Gabriel Simon, right, dribbles past the defense of the Marianas Dolphins' Angelo Factor.

The Marianas Dolphins' Jun Alipio picks up the loose ball against a Guam player.

Team Palau after beating the Marianas Alu'u in their battle for third place.

Guam's Aishea Grape, right, signals a play against the defense of Marianas Dolphins' Jake Pangelinan.

FIFA election set next year; Blatter defies calls to go now

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

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Johnson foils Spieth's bid for history

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP)—Just before 8 p.m. Monday, Jordan Spieth wove his way through the crowd around the 18th green at the Old Course. The scrum was heavy, and Spieth bumped into a photographer's elbow before skipping around a golf official wearing a suit. Finally, he looked up and smiled.

AP

United States' Zach Johnson, left, is congratulated by United States' Jordan Spieth after winning a playoff after the final round of the British Open Golf Championship at the Old Course, St. Andrews, Scotland, Monday, July 20, 2015.

"Zach!" Spieth called, and a few seconds later he wrapped Zach Johnson in a tight embrace. This was supposed to be Spieth's tournament, Spieth's week, Spieth's year. It was supposed to be Spieth's history. But after a long four rounds over a long five days at the British Open, Johnson's eyes were the ones that were wet with joyful tears, and there was only one thing left for Spieth to do: He gave Johnson a hug and stepped aside.

It may not have been the ending so many golf fans dreamed about; even Johnson could understand that. Spieth, golf's sudden star at 21, came here having won the Masters and the U.S. Open, and the possibility of claiming the third leg of the Grand Slam was tantalizing.

Yet in the end, Spieth came up one shot shy of Johnson, who blistered the ancient links for a 66 to finish at 15 under par before coolly winning a three-man playoff over Marc Leishman and Louis Oosthuizen to claim the second major of his career.

USA TODAY

Jordan Spieth walks back to the club house after the final round of the British Open Golf Championship at the Old Course, St. Andrews, Scotland, Monday, July 20, 2015.

"You know, I never really thought I'd win one," said Johnson, the 2007 Masters champion. "I'm a little bit in shock."

His astonishment was understandable, though in a week full of memorable shots, Johnson provided the most thrilling of all. Starting the day at nine under par, he had gone off an hour ahead of the final group. He did not know for sure that he needed to make a birdie on his last hole of regulation to have a chance, but in light of what was going on around him, Johnson was all but certain a par would leave him short of a playoff.

Faced with a 30-foot putt

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All set for Rollers basketball tournament

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The NMI Rollers Basketball Tournament is all set to open on Sunday, July 26, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with 11 teams confirming their participation in the three age divisions.

The tournament is set from July 26 to Aug. 2 with the Under-15, U17, and U19 division titles at stake.

NMI Rollers Basketball Association president Juan Dela Cruz said that the final number of teams might change depending on the coaches of each squad.

"As of now there are 11 confirmed teams in the three age divisions—U15, U17, and U19. It all depends on the coaches and they are finalizing their team rosters," said Dela Cruz.

"Several Guam teams were supposed to join but our contact there, the NPM Falcons, said there will be a lot of basketball clinics down there since it's summer. Hopefully, the next time our Guam neighbors could join the tournament," Dela Cruz added.

Tournament officials, the players' parents, and volunteers

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JON PEREZ

NMI Rollers Basketball Association president Juan Dela Cruz, front left, and coach Joe Diaz, front right, join some of their players for a group photo after their teams' practice session yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Weather is Senior Leaguers' main concern

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The weather in Bangor, Maine is the main concern of Senior League World Series-bound CNMI All-Stars manager Greg Camacho.

Camacho said that cold weather would greet them in Bangor when they open up their World Series campaign against Europe-Africa representatives Lazio League of Italy on Aug. 2 at 2pm local time.

Host Maine, Central US, and Canada will be joining Europe-Africa and the CNMI, the ASPAC representatives, in Pool B in the Aug. 2 to 8 World Series. Curacao's Liga Pariba leads Pool B along with US East, Southeast, Southwest, and West.

Temperatures at the Shawn T. Mansfield Stadium in Bangor, the site of the Senior League World Series, hit 18 degrees Celsius or 64.4 degrees Fahrenheit last Monday unlike on Saipan where it can reach above 30 degrees Celsius or 86 degrees Fahrenheit.

"Weather has been the coaching staff and the returning players' concern. We're not sure how the other boys would react to the cold weather. And from what we've learned, it is cold there in Bangor," said Camacho in an interview before the team's practice session last Monday afternoon.

Camacho said that returning players Craig Michael Aguon, Nathan Paul Camacho, Franko

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JOEL PINAROC

Rep. Angel T. Demapan (R-Saipan), right, presents CNMI Senior League All-Star team manager Greg Camacho the House Resolution he authored commending their effort in the recently concluded Asia Pacific Middle East Junior, Senior, and Big League Regional Baseball Tournament held on Saipan. The CNMI All-Stars will represent the ASPAC region in next month's World Series in Bangor, Maine.